

ES 175

**Progress in Electrolyte R&D
within ABR Program: 2009~2013**

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U. S. Army Research Lab

John Zhang
Argonne National Lab



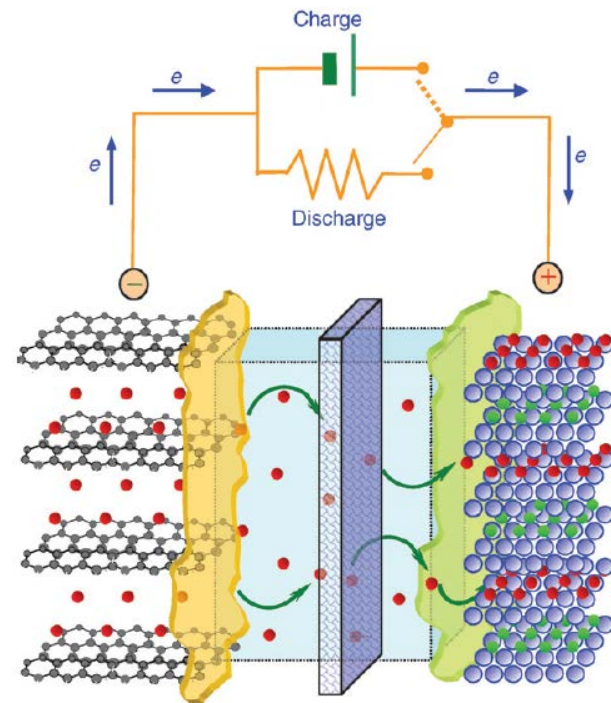
**2013 DOE Annual Merit Review
May 14, 2013
Washington DC**



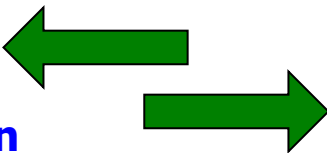
Baseline Electrolyte: LiPF_6 in Carbonates (EC, DMC etc)

Electrolytes for Li Ion Battery (LIB)

- Higher Power Density
 - better SEI on anode
- Higher Energy Density
 - anodic stability on cathode
 - SEI on alloy/conv.-rexn. chemistries
- Service temperature
 - High temperature stability: automotive
 - Low temperature: space, military
- Safety:
 - overcharge Protection
 - non-flammability



Electrolytes for Beyond Li Ion (BLI) Chemistries

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Non-Carbonate• Solid Polymer• Ceramics• Li Metal Protection• Ionic Liquid |  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Li/O_2• Li/S• $\text{Li}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$• Na Ion• Mg Ion |
|---|---|---|



USABC Requirements For LIB Electrolytes

Parameters	SOA	Desired
Ion Conductivity	> 5 mS/cm (25 °C) > 1 mS/cm (-30 °C)	> 2 mS/cm (-30 °C)
Electronic Conductivity	<10 ⁻⁶ S/cm	
Li ⁺ Transference Number	> 0.35	
Stability at Cathode	> 4.5 V vs. Li ⁰	> 5.0 V vs. Li ⁰
Viscosity	< 5 cP (25 °C) < 50 cP (-30 °C)	< 20 cP (-30 °C)
H ₂ O	< 20 ppm	< 5 ppm
HF	< 50 ppm	< 10 ppm
Vapor Pressure	< 20 mHg	< 1 mmHg
Flash Point	> 60 °C	> 100 °C
Cost	< \$15/Kg	< \$10/Kg

Electrolyte Projects within ABR/BATT (11)

- Argonne National Lab (ANL)
- Arizona State University (ASU)
- Army Research Lab (ARL)
- Case Western Reserve University (CWRU)
- Idaho National Lab (INL)
- Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL)
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL)
- North Carolina State University (NCSU)
- Oak Ridge National Lab (ORNL)
- University of Rhode Island (URI)
- University of Texas-Austin (UTA)
- University of Utah

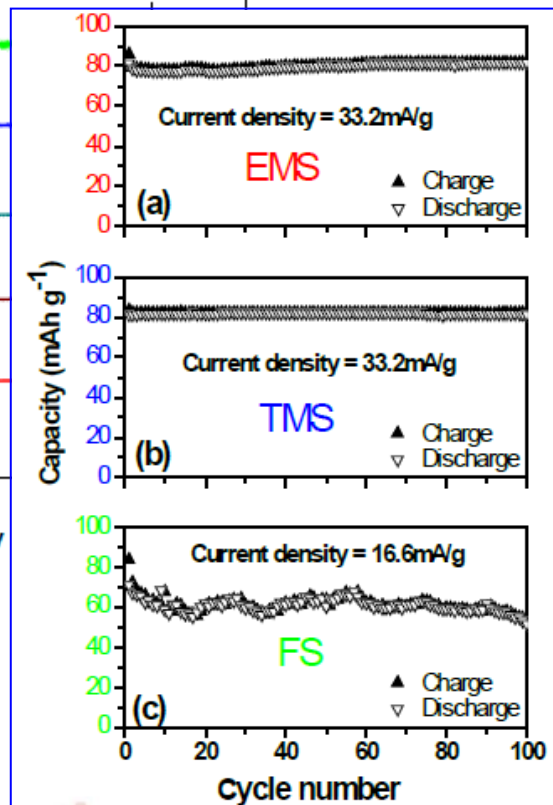
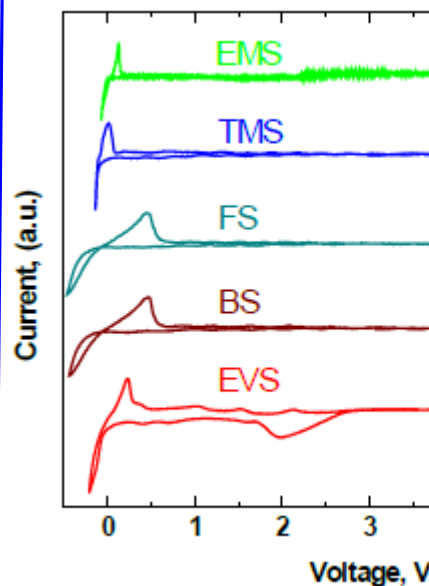
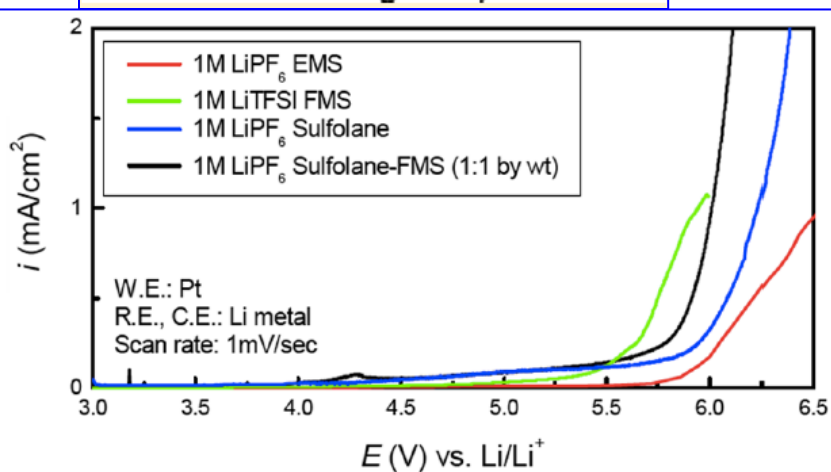
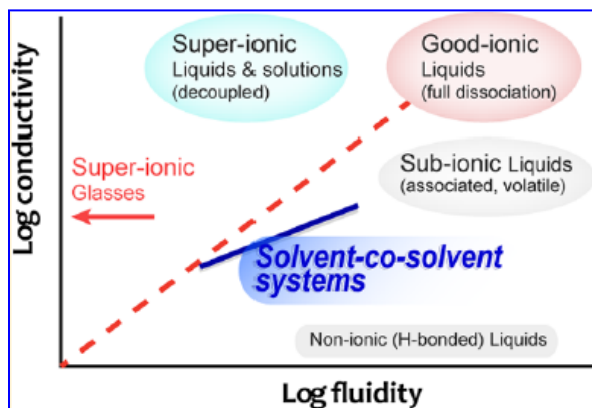
Research Foci

- Fundamental Understanding
 - SEI Additives
 - High Voltage Electrolytes
 - Overcharge Protection
- Low Temperature Improvement
 - Solid Polymer
 - Ionic Liquid
- Electrolytes for BLI Chemistries
 - Simulations
- Materials Engineering

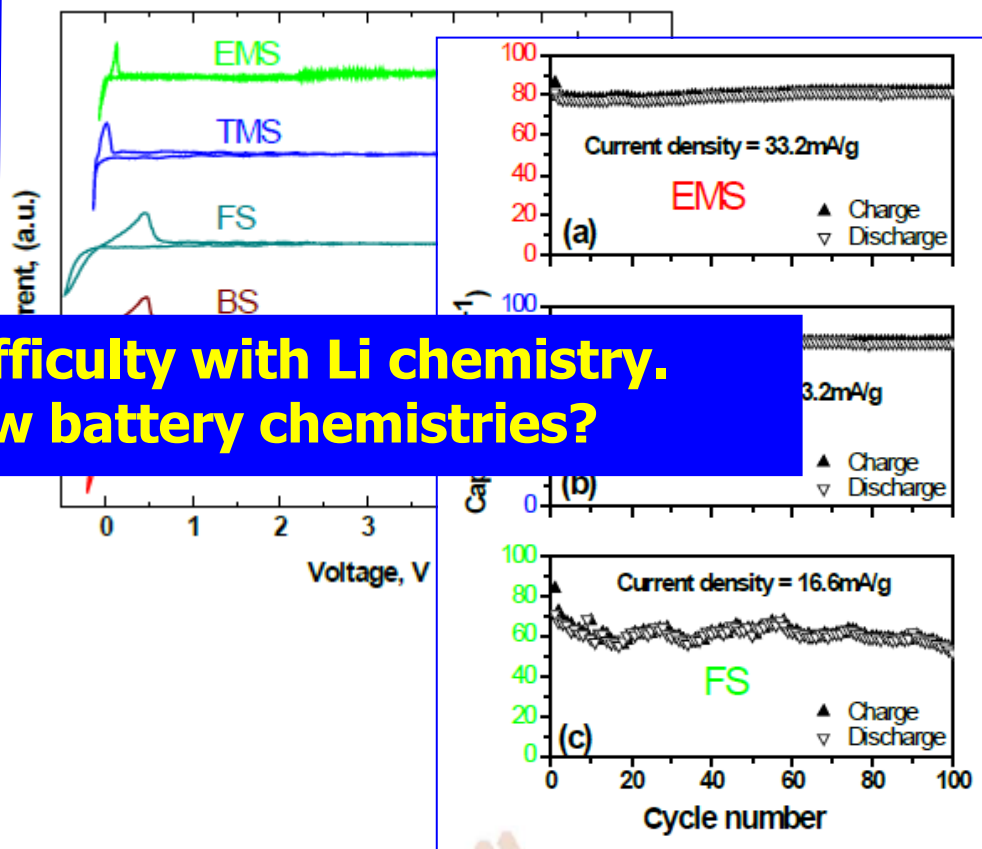
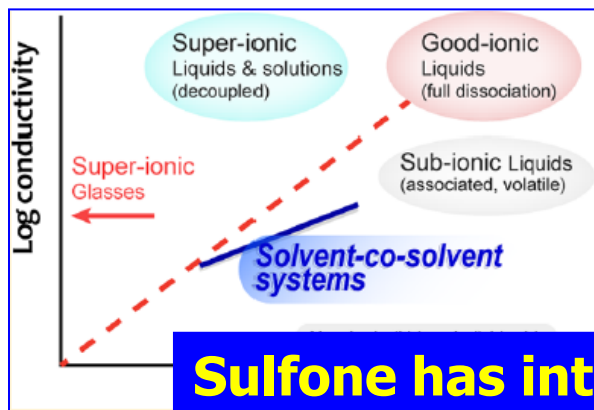
What differentiates ABR efforts from "other" electrolyte researches

- Application-oriented
- Core facilities at National Labs
- Program-wide Standardized Tests

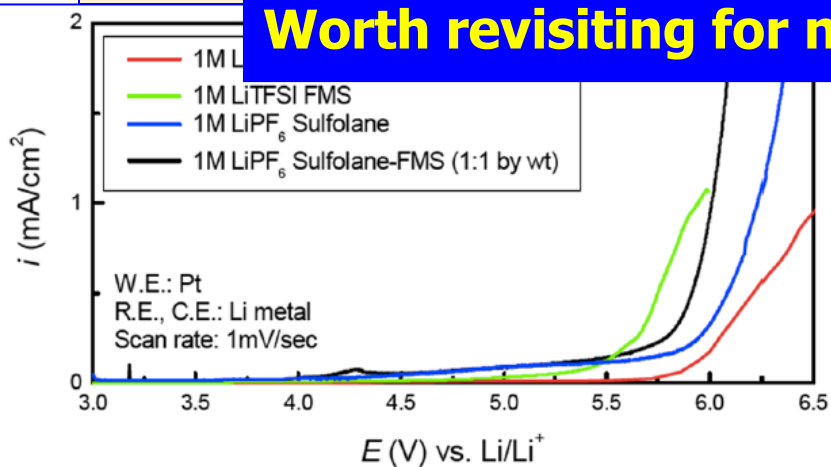
- **Advantage:** exceptional anodic stability on cathodes
- **Disadvantage:** reduction at anode; high viscosity



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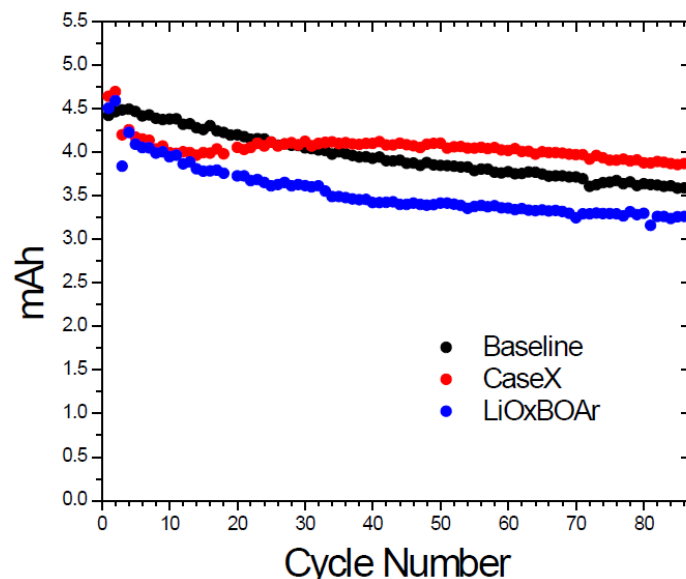
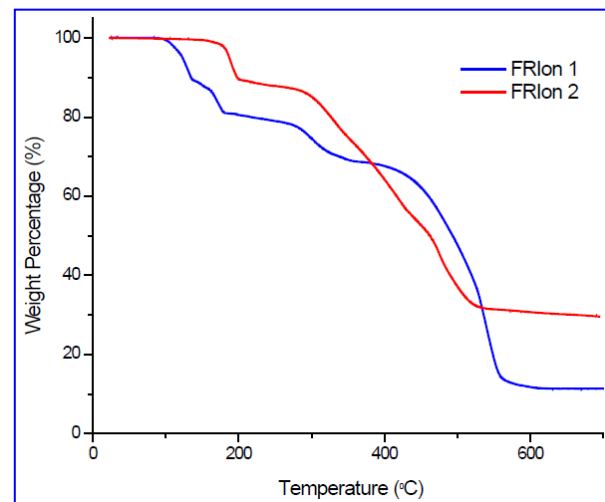
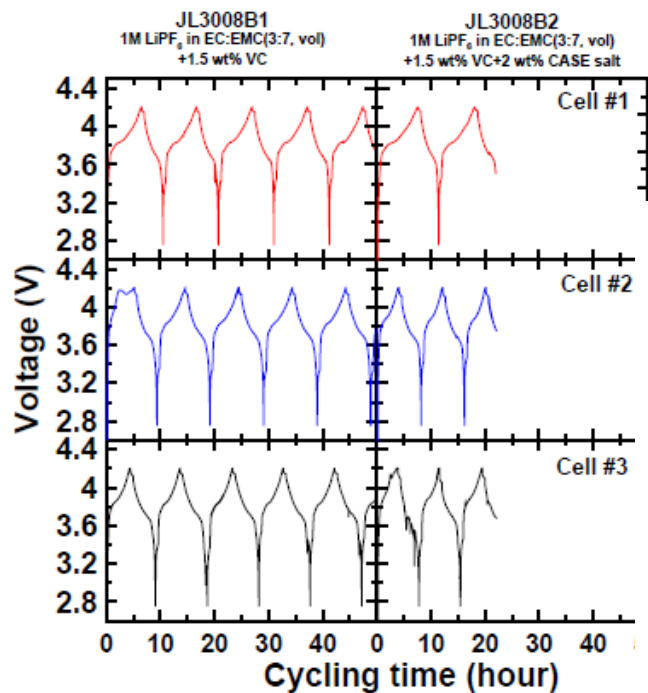
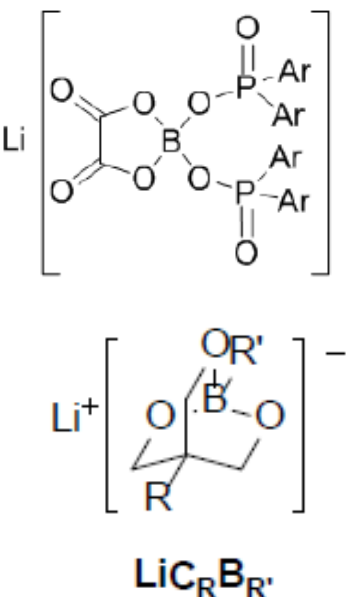
**Sulfone has intrinsic difficulty with Li chemistry.
Worth revisiting for new battery chemistries?**





Functionalize anions of new Li salt

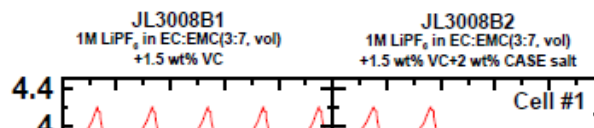
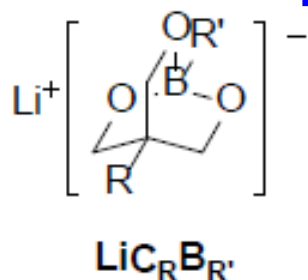
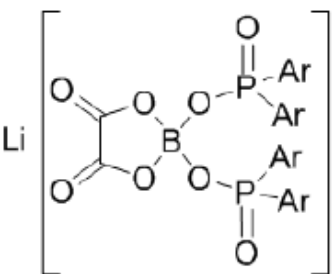
- flame retardation
- overcharge protection
- chemical stability
- thermal stability



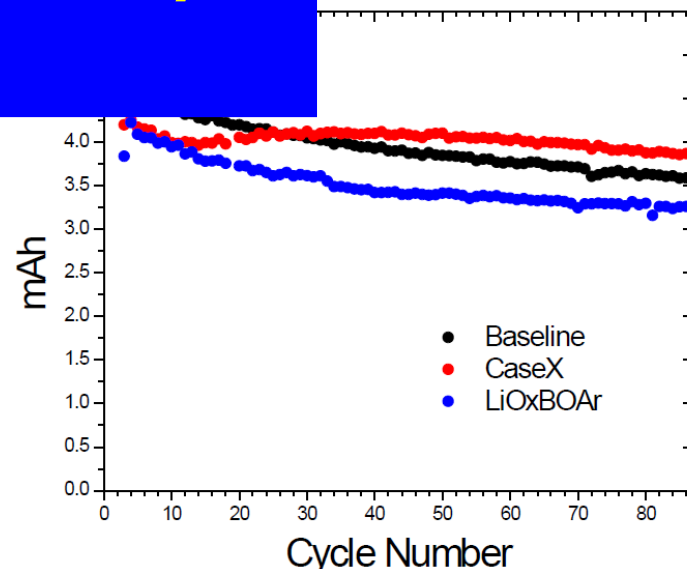
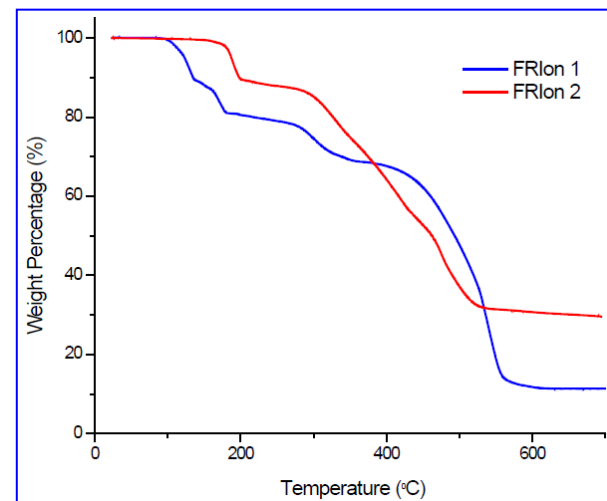
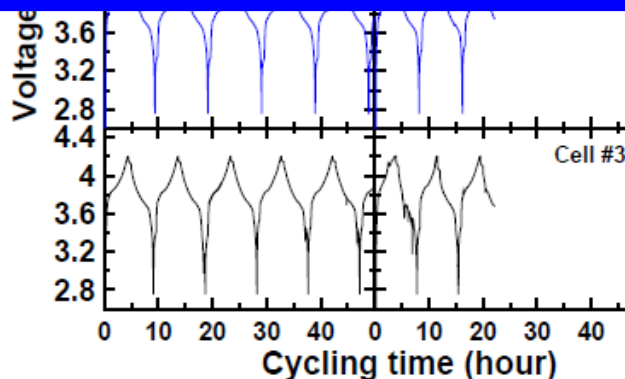


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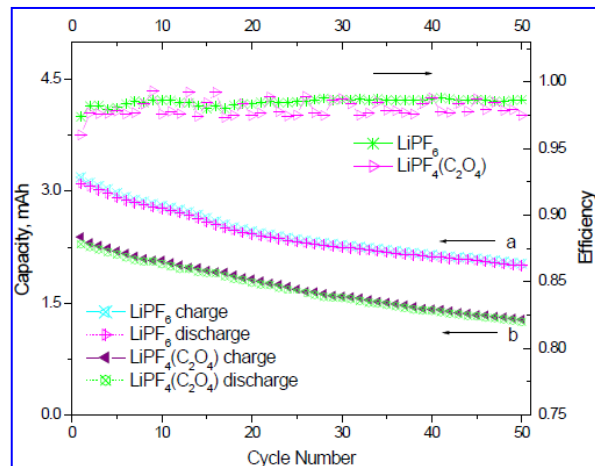
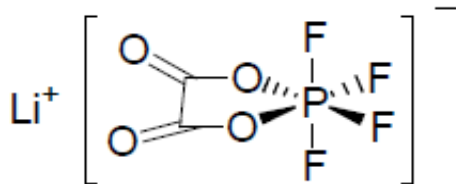


**Anion so far is an inert part in electrolyte.
Why not have it do some work?**



Functionalized new Li salt anion

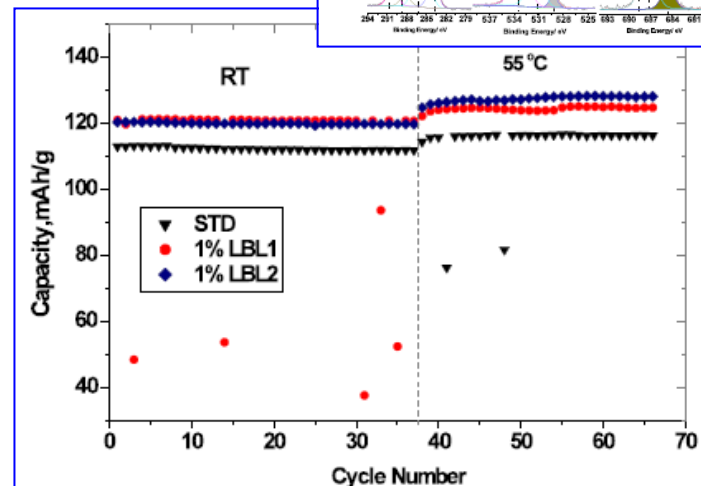
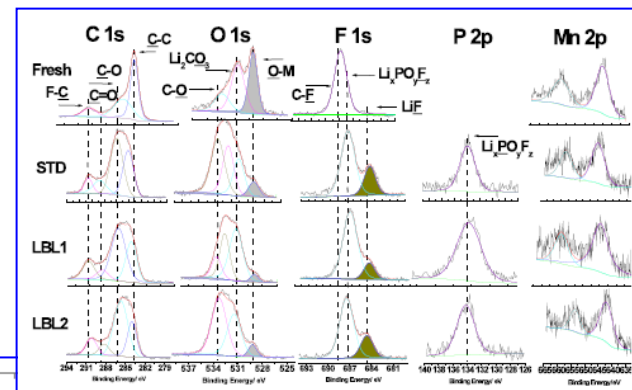
- oxalato-substructure incorporated with PF_6^-
- higher thermal stability than PF_6^-
- positive effect on cell



Additives for Cathode-film

BOB or Lewis base as electrolyte additives

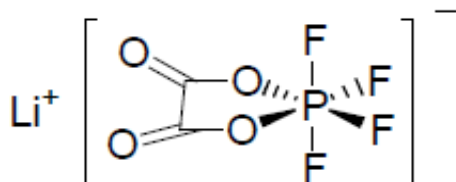
- new interphase retains Mn better
- positive effect on half-cell at HT



TER FOCUSED.

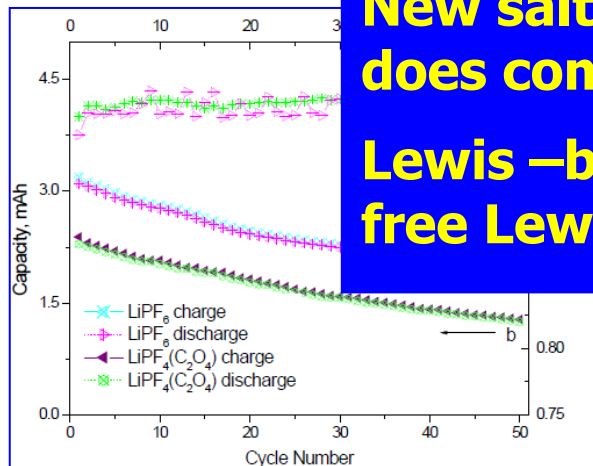
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New salt anion as hybrid of PF_6 and BOB does combine benefits of both.

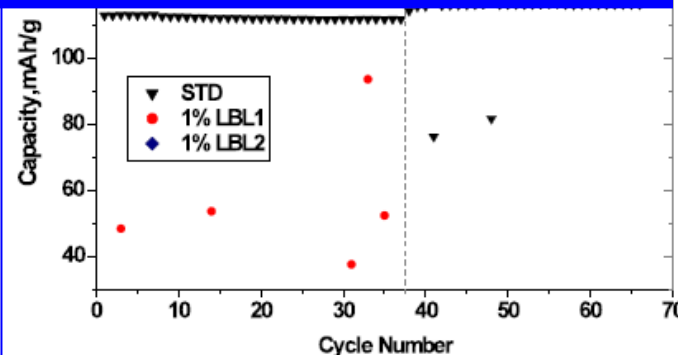
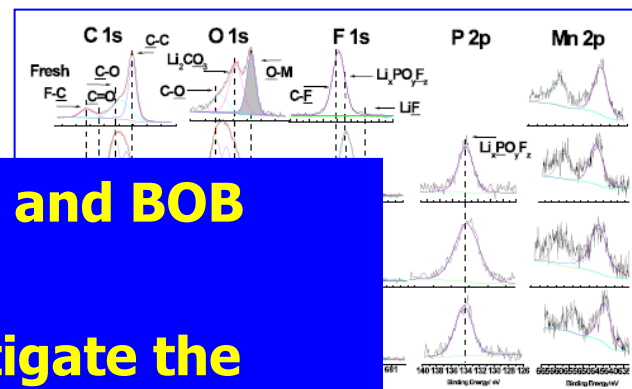
Lewis –base additive might mitigate the free Lewis acid PF_5 in electrolyte.



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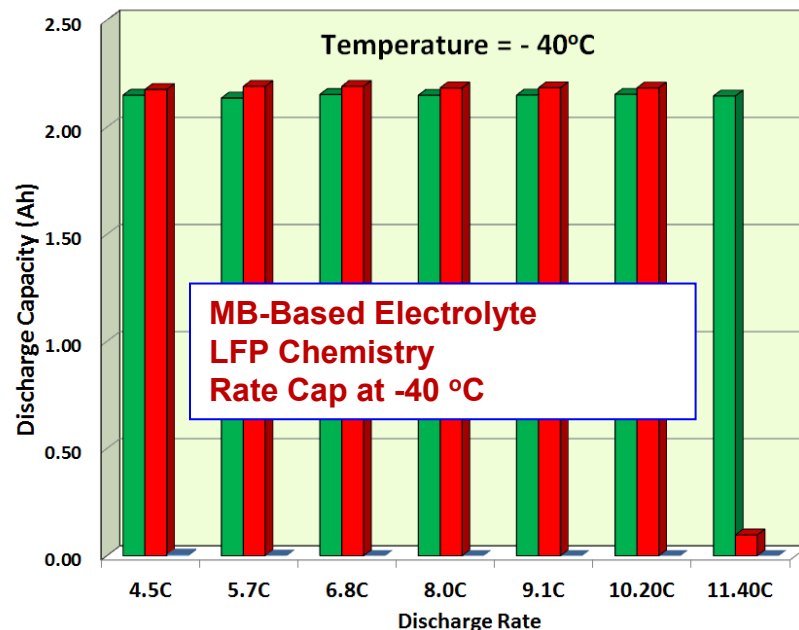
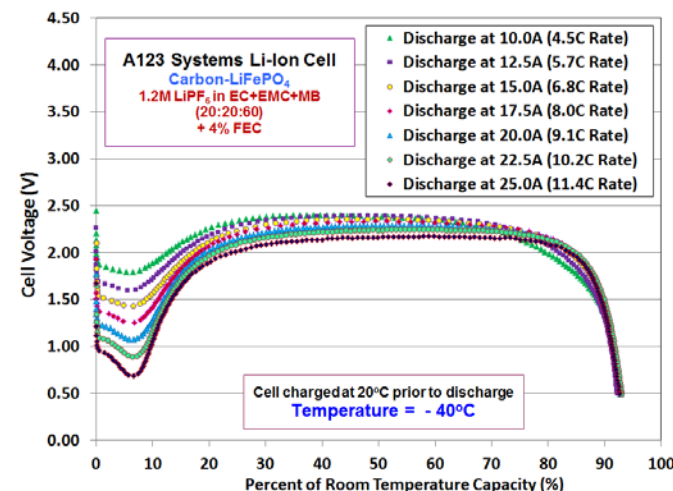
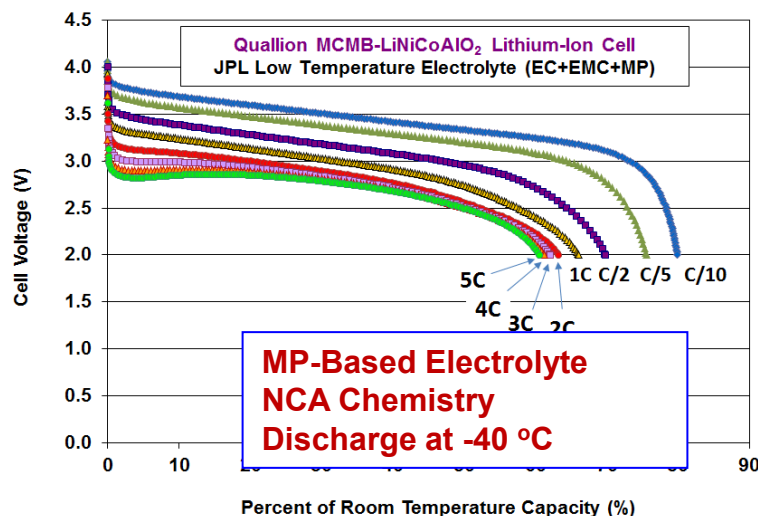


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A Different Perspective from NASA

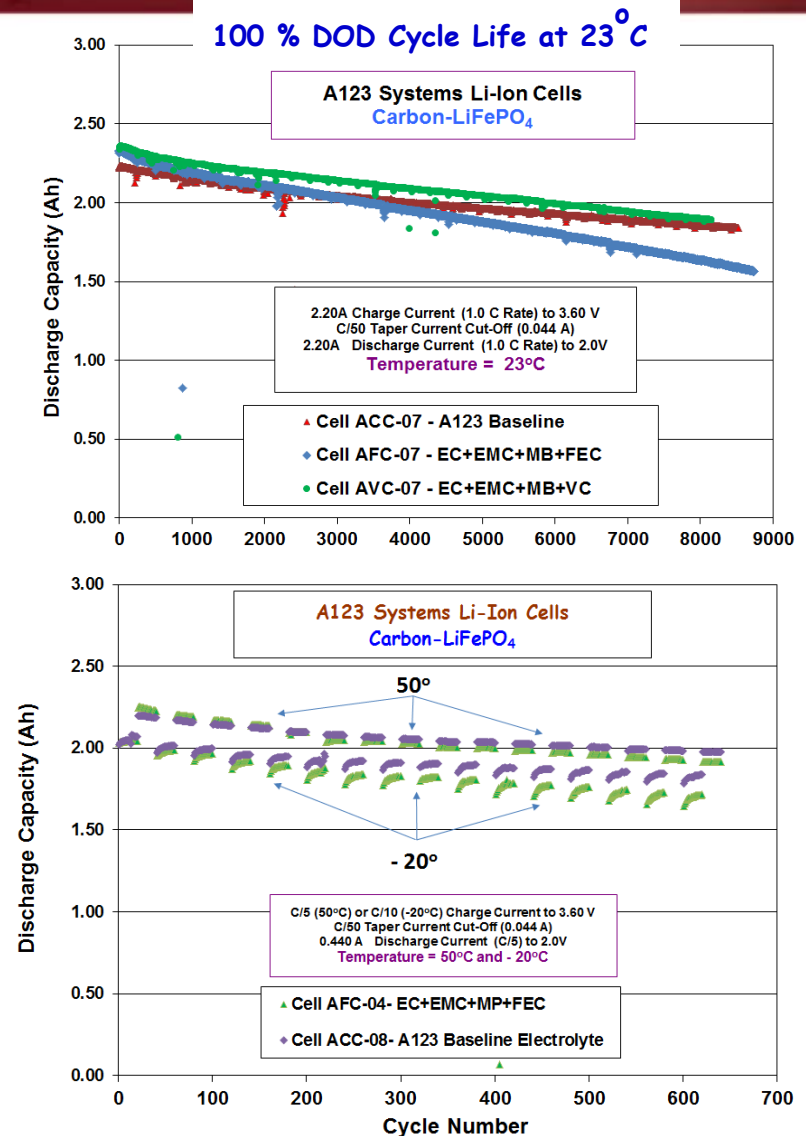
- Space mission requires energy-delivery at extra-low temperatures
 - -40~-60 °C
- Approaches:
 - incorporation of carboxylic esters
 - restricted use of EC
- Challenges: maintain cycling stability at HT





Low Temperature Electrolytes

- Cycle-life not impacted by these carboxylates
 - Impressive life characteristics are observed at 23°C, with ~ 8,000 cycles being demonstrated (100 % DOD cycling). The methyl butyrate-based electrolytes delivers comparable performance to the baseline electrolyte (> 81% of the initial capacity after completing 8,000 cycles).
- HT (50 °C) stability
- Cells containing the JPL developed electrolytes demonstrate good preservation of the low temperature capability after being subjected to high temperature (i.e., +50°C).



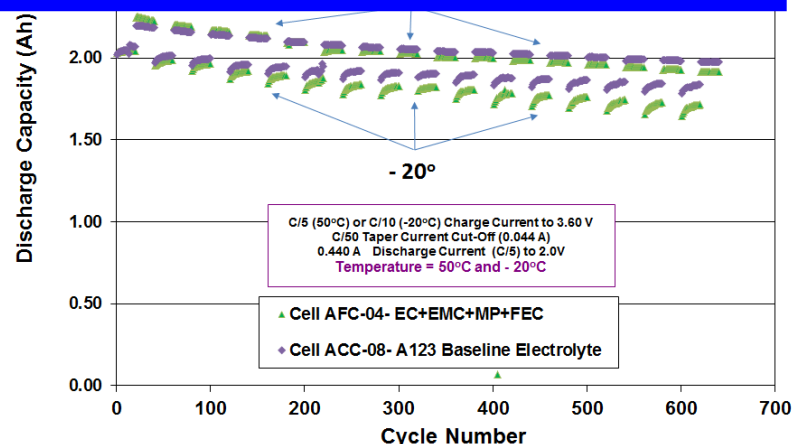
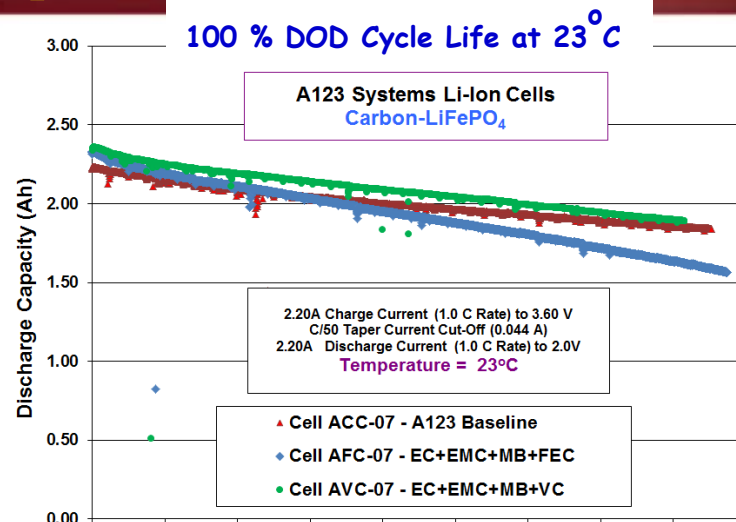


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- HT (50 °C) compromise in HT performance mitigated
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Carboxylate addition clearly improves LT rate capability.

Compromise in HT performance mitigated

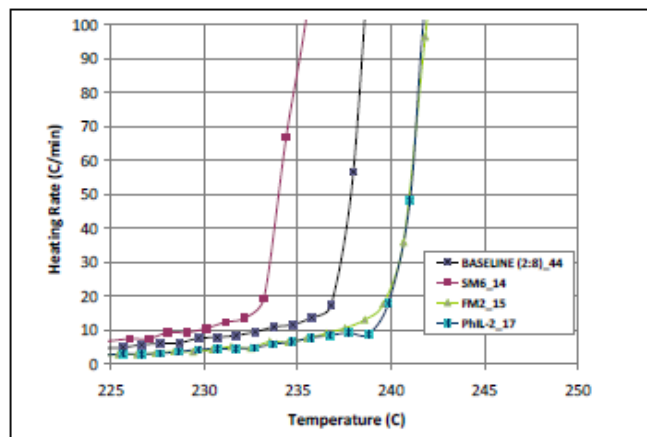
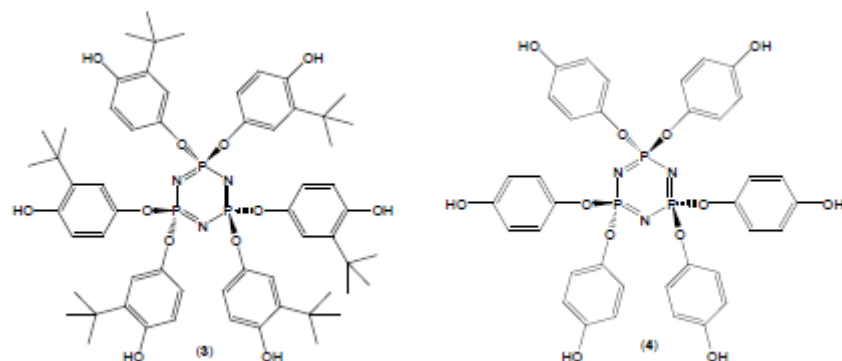


Discharge Rate Capability at -40°C

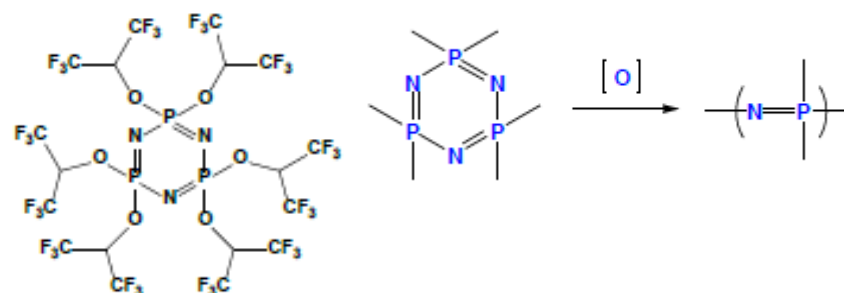
TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.

- 1980s: Polyphosphazenes with EO linkage used as backbone of SPE
- 2000s: Functionalized phosphazenes used as flame-retardants

Stability and Safety



High voltage additive with F-alkyl



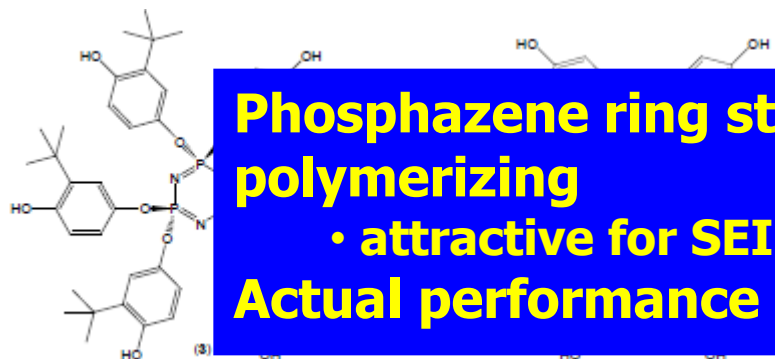
- tendency to polymer exploited
- actual cell tests vary
- no obvious advantage to phosphates or aluminates

Army Research Lab
PI: Jow/Xu



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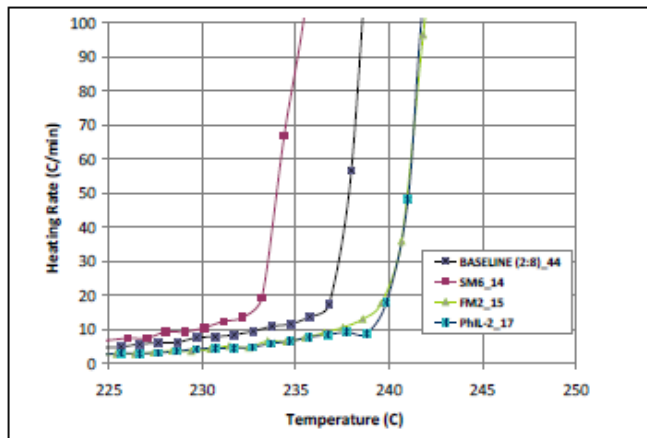
Stability and Safety



Phosphazene ring structure affords the possibility of polymerizing

- attractive for SEI-film designers

Actual performance varies



High voltage additive with F-alkyl

- tendency to polymer exploited
- actual cell tests vary
- no obvious advantage to phosphates or aluminates

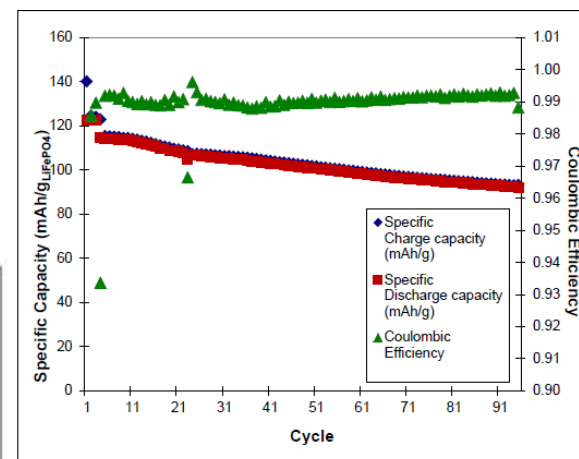
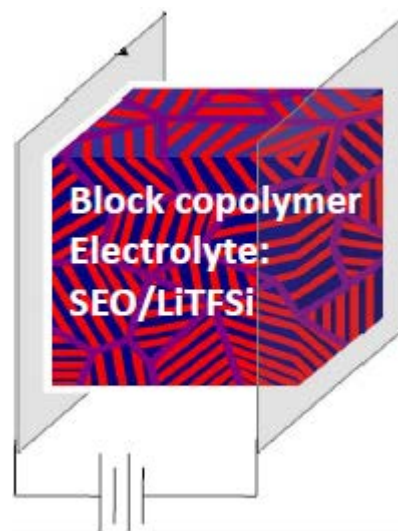
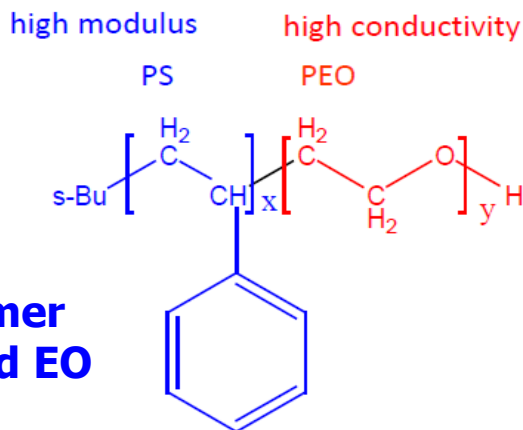
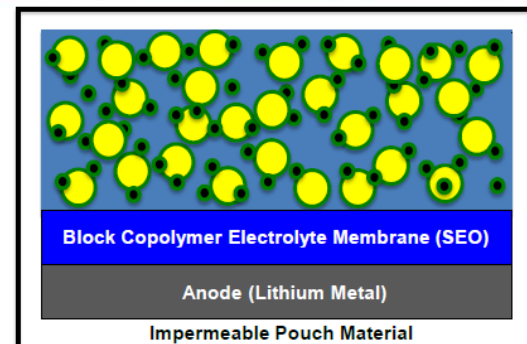
Army Research Lab
PI: Jow/Xu

Advantage:

- mechanical and conductive functions decoupled
 - Li dendrite could be prevented
 - decent ion conductivity

Disadvantage:

- Ion conductivity could only allow for HT (60~70 °C) operation
- Anodic stability limit applied by EO-linkages

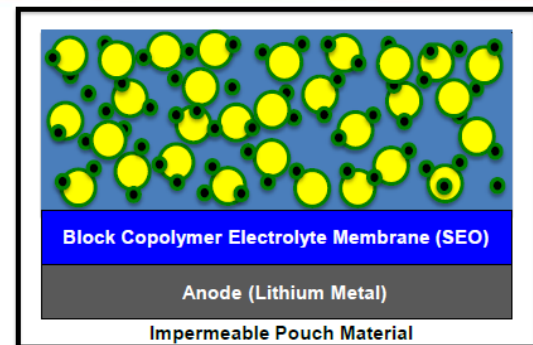


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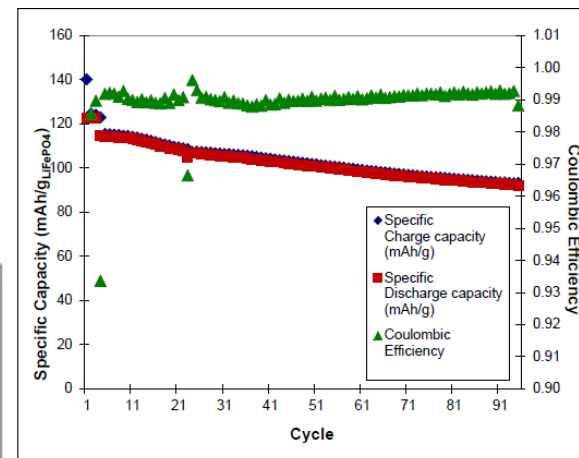
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A clever niche found for LFP vs. Li Chemistry

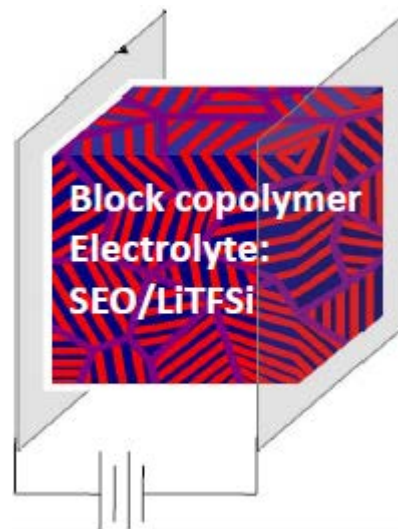
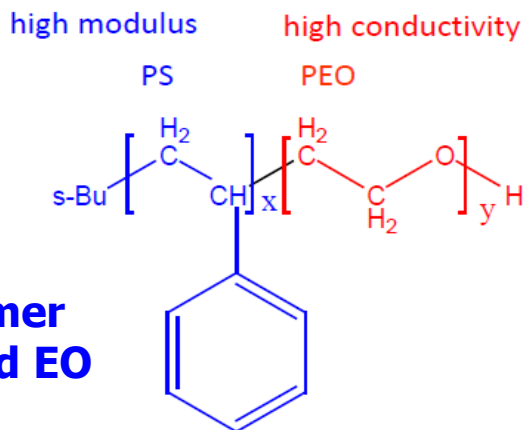
- < 4.0 V stable region for EO links
- energy density compensation from metal Li



operation

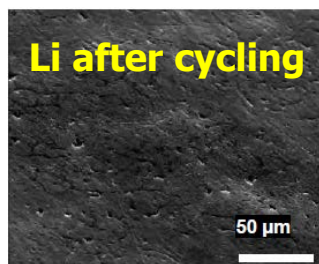
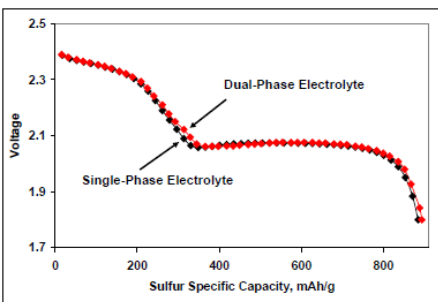


Block-copolymer of Styrene and EO

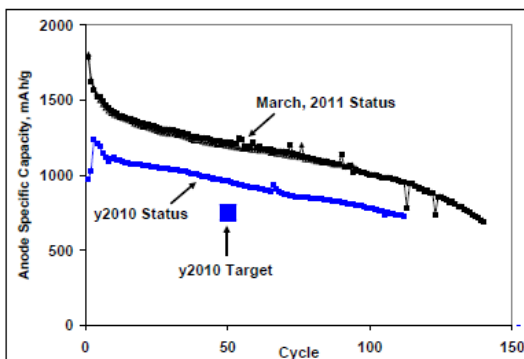


Dual-phase Electrolyte: Li protection

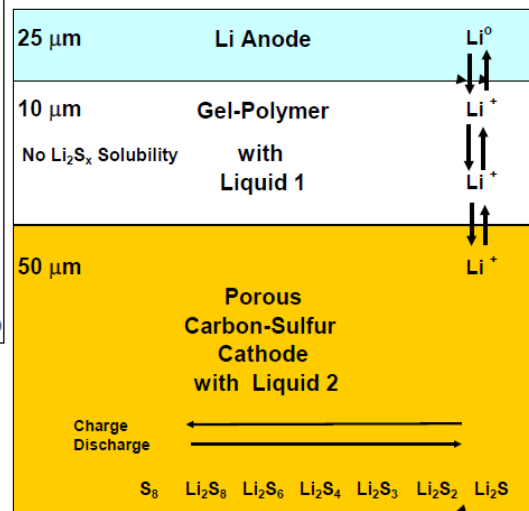
- anolyte: Li_2S_8 insoluble; immobilized in polymer gel
- catholyte: solubilize polysulfides



Dual Phase Electrolyte Li-S Battery

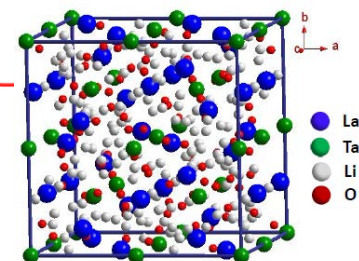
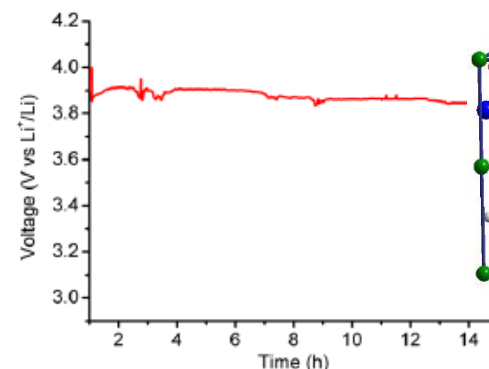
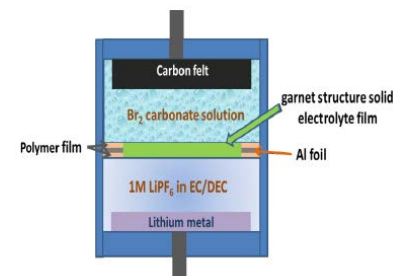


Anode specific capacity vs cycle.



Solid Electrolyte: Garnet structure

- stable vs. Li
- $\sigma > 10^{-3} \text{ S/cm}$
- thin/strong film
- Li/ Br_2 cell

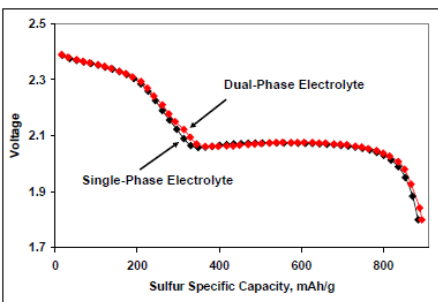


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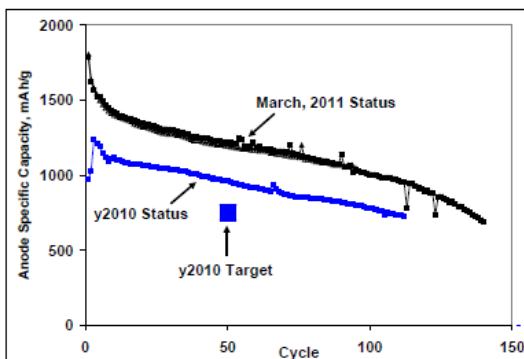


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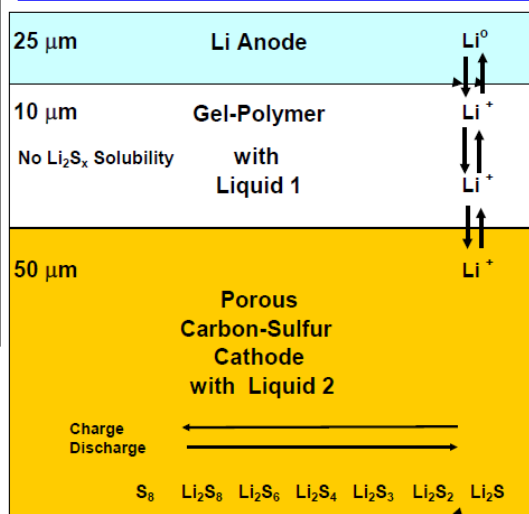
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Li metal protection still the key in realizing Li/S chemistry

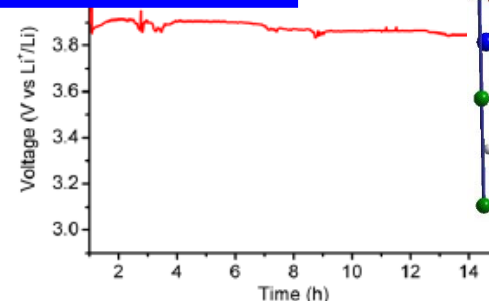
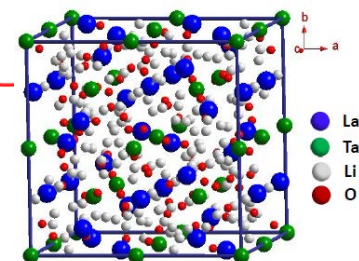
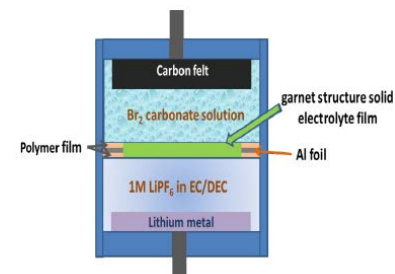


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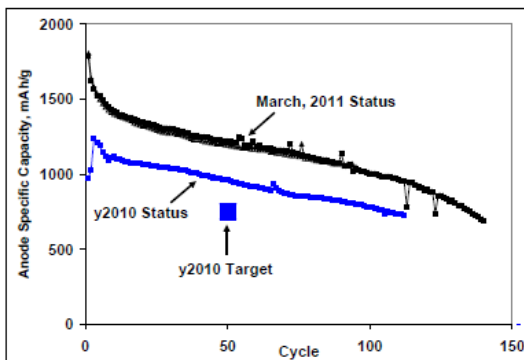
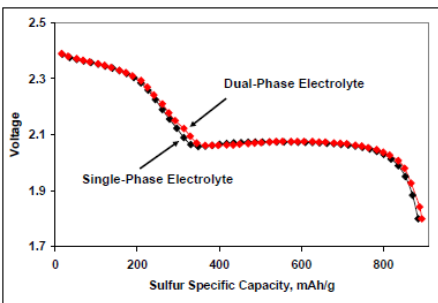
TECHNOLOGY DRIVEN. WARFIGHTER FOCUSED.



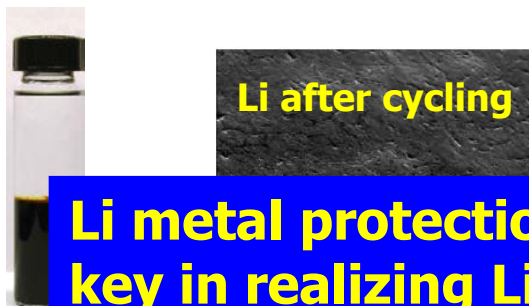
Electrolytes for Li/S and Li Aqueous Chemistries

Dual-phase Electrolyte: Li protection

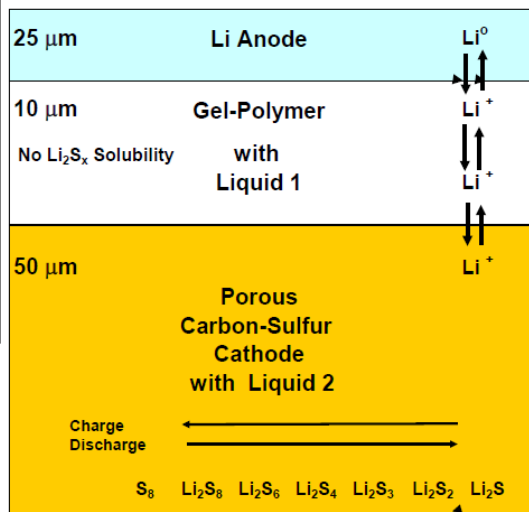
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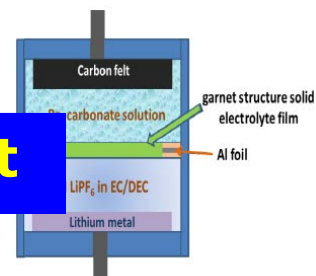


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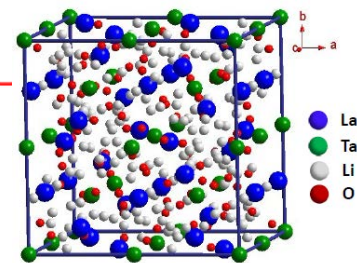
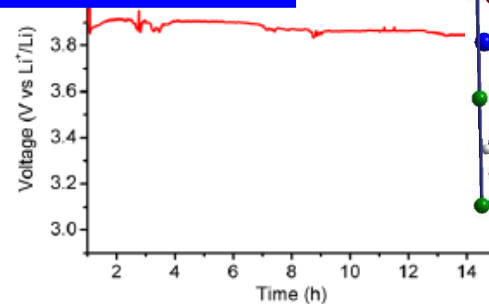


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Scale-up and cost



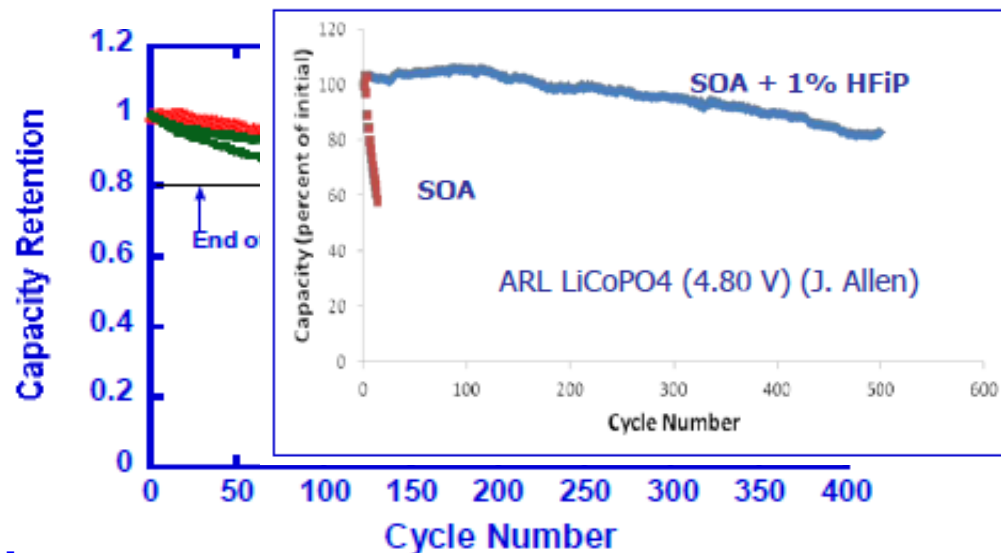
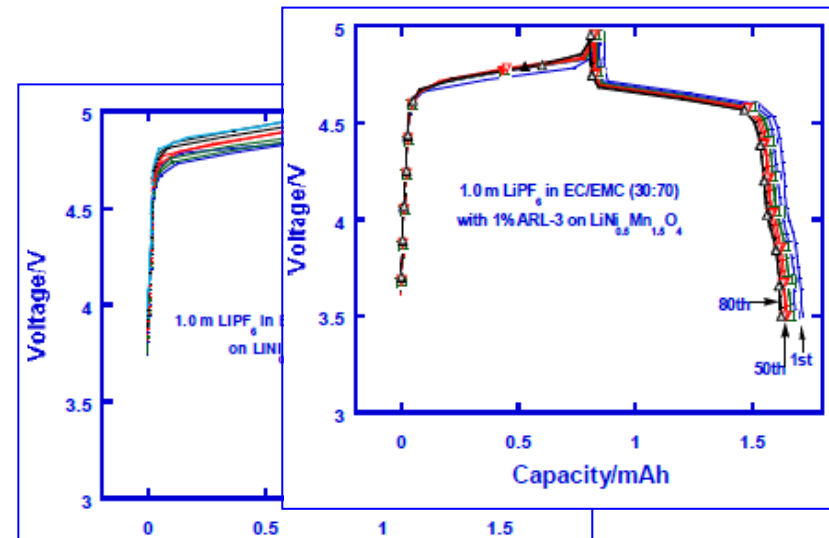
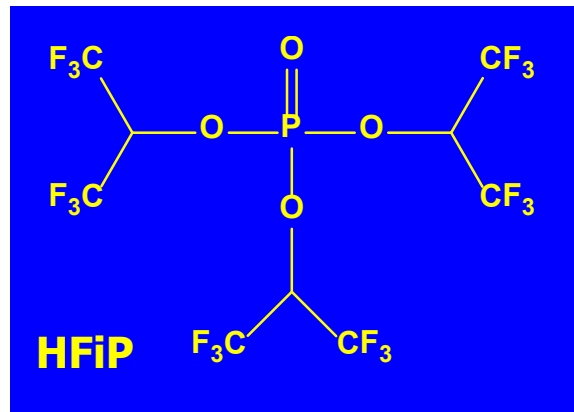
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Additive Approaches

- maintaining bulk electrolyte composition
- sacrificial additives dictates interphasial chemistry
 - fluoroalkyl phosphates identified as first family of such additives

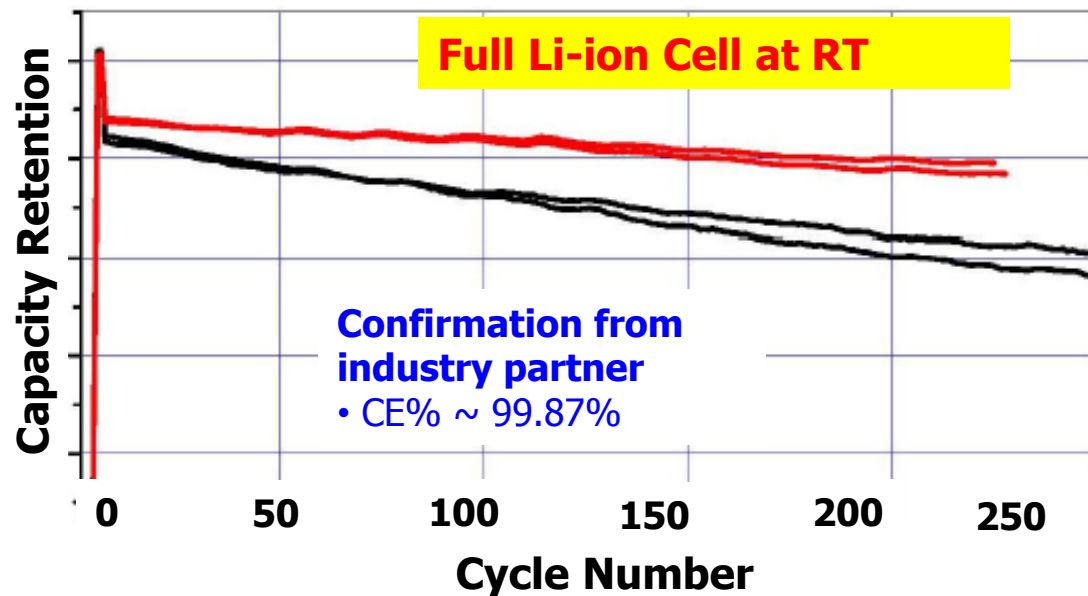




US ARMY
RDECOM

Full Cells Confirmation Scale-up/Characterization/Design of New Additives

ARL



LMNO spinel (ARL2) vs. Graphite (ARL2) formation, 1C, 3.5 to 4.95V, BatCell, HVP/B2Cu, GF, RT
1.2M LIPF6 in EC/EMC 3:7

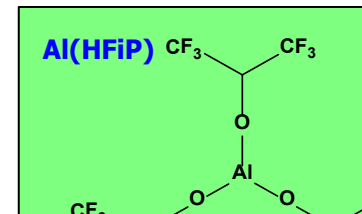
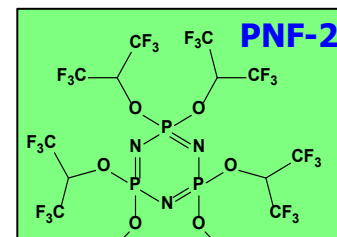
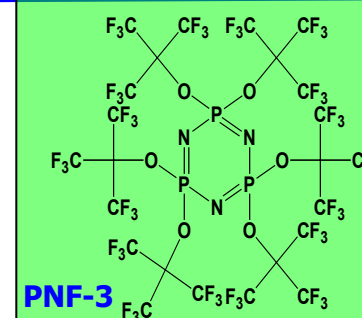
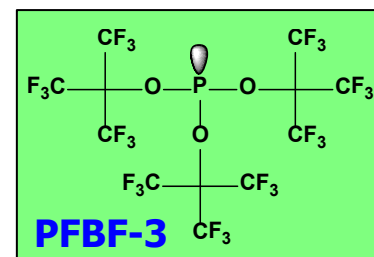
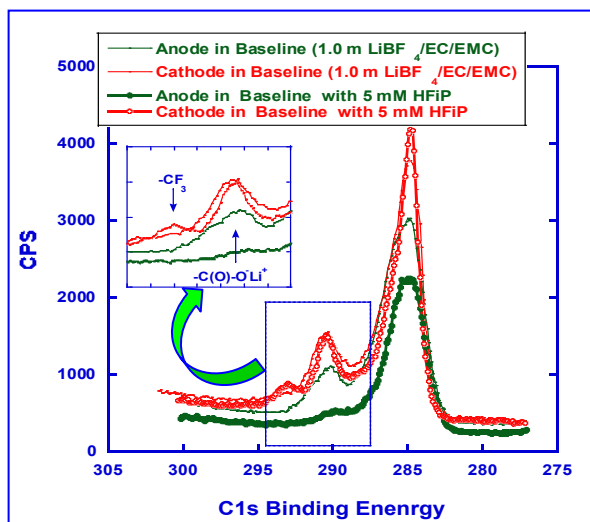
— blank
— 0.3 wt% HFIP (sublimated, ex ARL)

Results confirmed in full Li ion cells

- LMNO cathode and Graphite anode

Large cell configuration
Longevity cycling at RT
CE% approaching the goal of 99.99%

HFIP scaled-up at ANL facility
POC: Dr. Krumdick



ARL

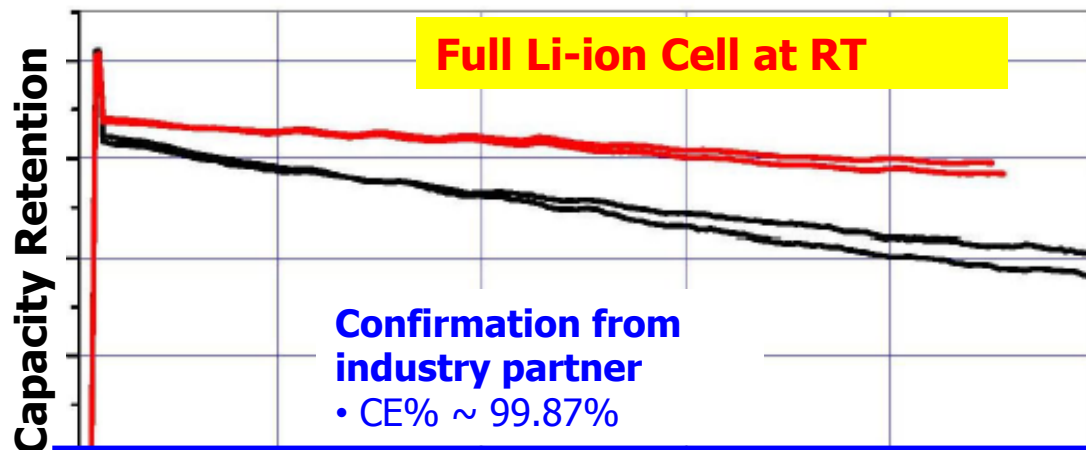
Army Research Lab



US ARMY
RDECOM

Full Cells Confirmation Scale-up/Characterization/Design of New Additives

ARL



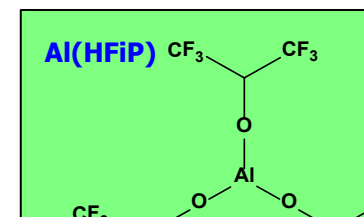
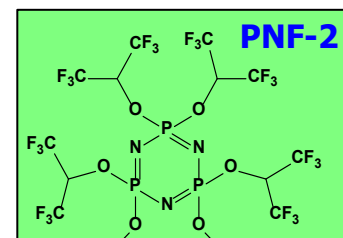
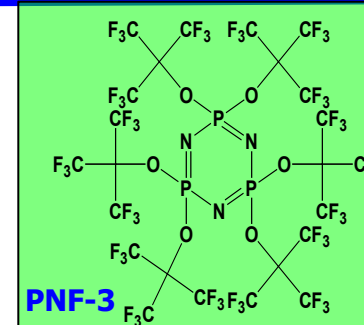
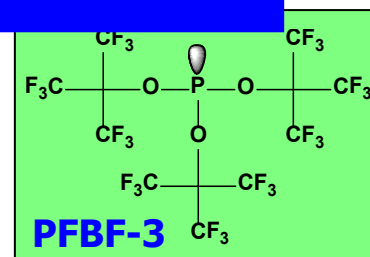
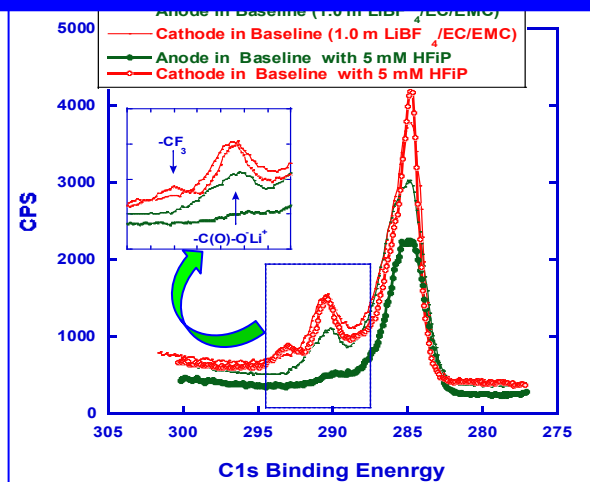
LMNO spinel (ARL2) vs. Graphite (ARL2)
formation, 1C, 3.5 to 4.95V,
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1.2M LiPF₆ in EC/EMC 3:7

— blank
— 0.3 wt% HFIP (sublimated, ex ARL)

Results confirmed in full Li ion cells
LMNO cathode and Graphite anode
cell configuration
capacity cycling at RT
approaching the goal of 99.99%

Capacity fading at HT still an issue
• involving both electrode and electrolyte
Better additive to be developed.

HFIP
scaled-up
at ANL
facility
POC: Dr.
Krumdick



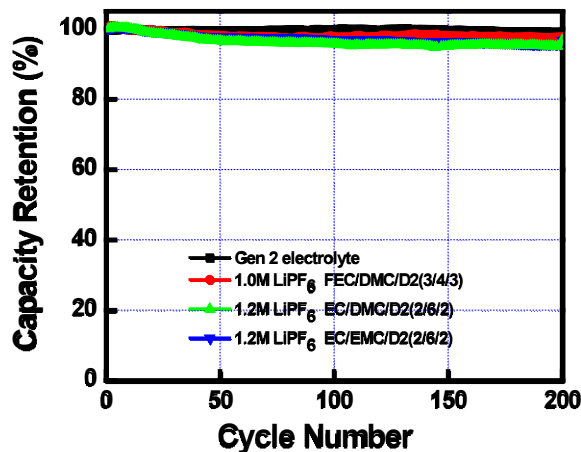
ARL

Army Research Lab

High Voltage Electrolyte: Solvent Approach

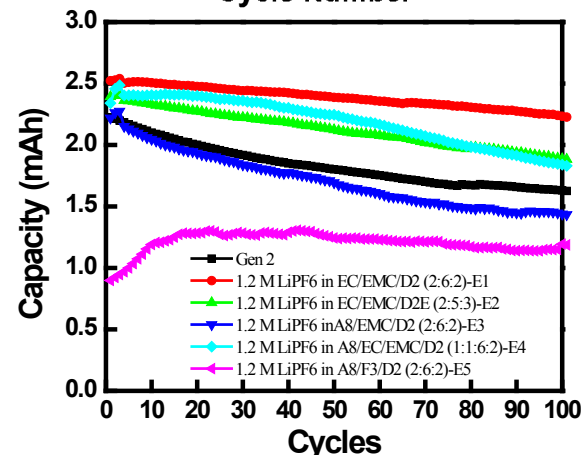
- Improved stability at 55°C demonstrated using $\text{LiNi}_{0.5}\text{Mn}_{1.5}\text{O}_4/\text{LTO}$ chemistry
- Interfacial issue with graphite anode at high temperature
- Electrolyte formulation and/or new SEI formation: further improve the high V. performance
- Intrinsic stability combined with kinetic stability on both electrode/electrolyte interfaces

RT



LTO/LNMO Couple (3.45-2.0V)

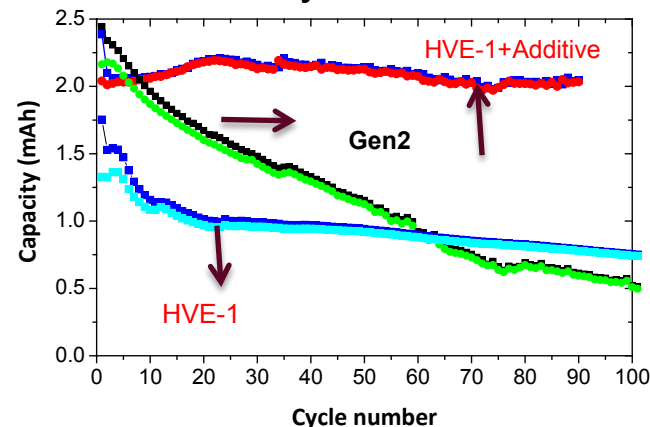
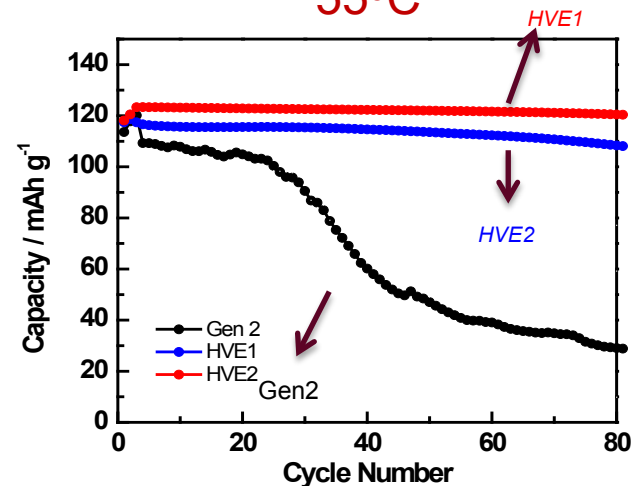
Gen 2 electrolyte (1.2 M LiPF₆ EC/EMC (3/7)
 1.0M LiPF₆ FCC/FLC/FE (3/4/3) – HVE1 (E5)
 1.2M LiPF₆ FCC/EC/FLC/FE (2/6/2) – HVE2
 1.2M LiPF₆ EC/DMC/FE(2/6/2) – FE-1
 1.2M LiPF₆ EC/EMC/FE(2/6/2) – FE-2



Graphite/LNMO Couple (4.9-3.5)

Gen 2 electrolyte (1.2 M LiPF₆ EC/EMC (3/7)
 1.0M LiPF₆ FCC/FLC/FE (3/4/3) – HVE1 (E5)
 1.2M LiPF₆ FCC/EC/FLC/FE (2/6/2) – HVE2
 1.2M LiPF₆ EC/DMC/FE(2/6/2) – FE-1
 1.2M LiPF₆ EC/EMC/FE(2/6/2) – FE-2

55°C

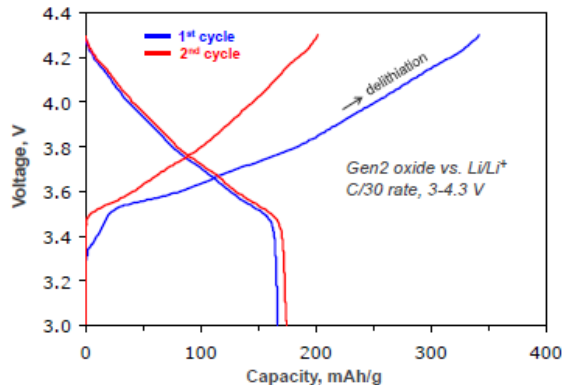
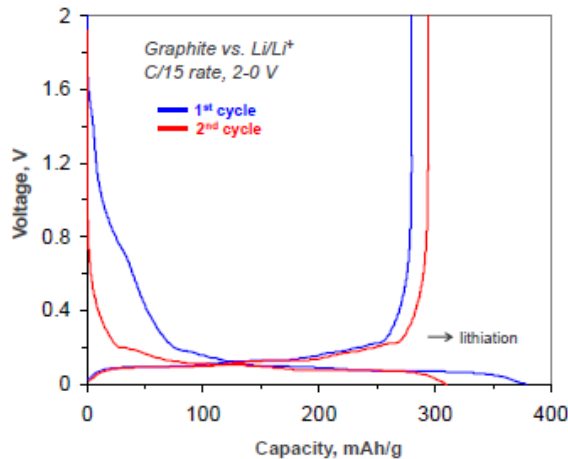
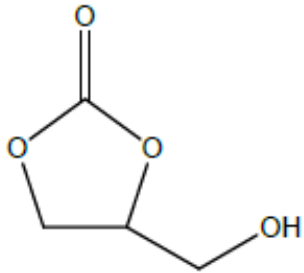


New Electrolytes: EC-Derivatives

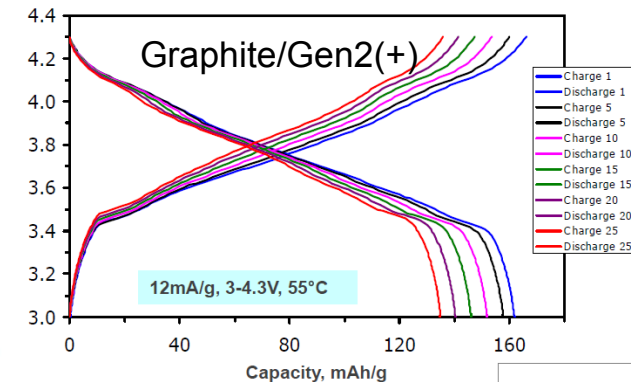
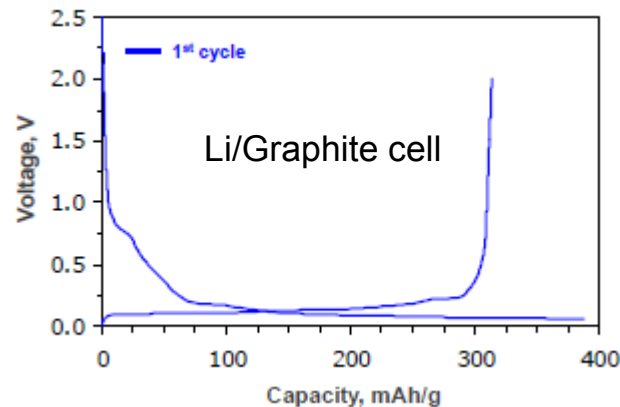
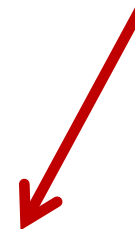
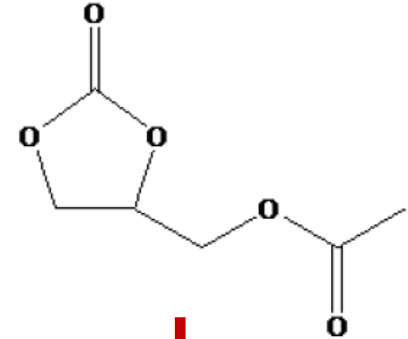
Investigate novel electrolytes that include glycerol carbonate, and its modifications: methyl, ethyl ethers, and oligo(ethylene oxide) ethers.

- Stability issues on both electrode
- Li salt effect on SEI formation

Glycerol carbonate



Modified glycerol carbonate



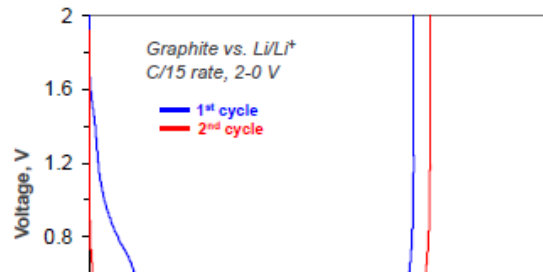
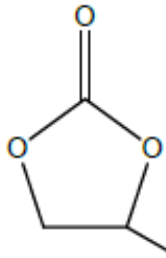
Argonne Nat'l Lab
PI: Abraham

New Electrolytes: EC-Derivatives

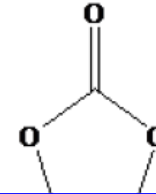
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Glycerol carbonate

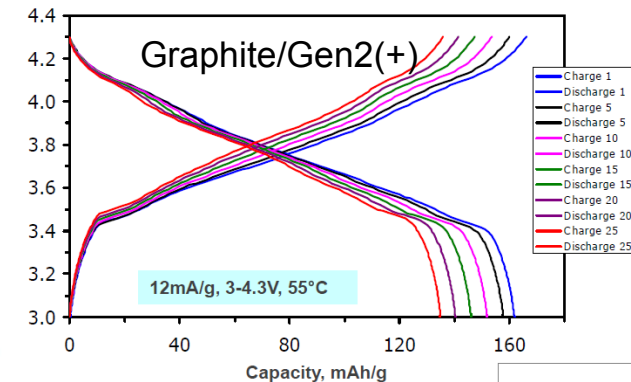
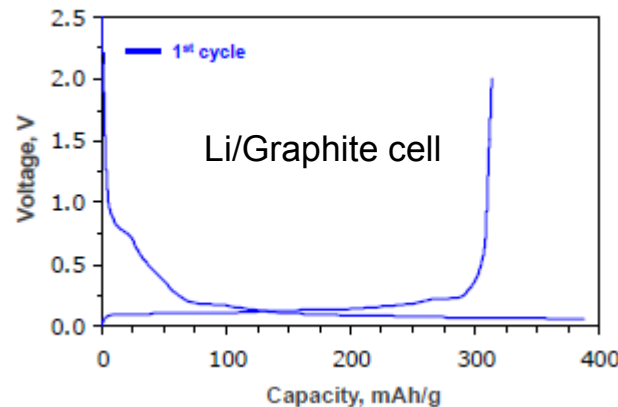
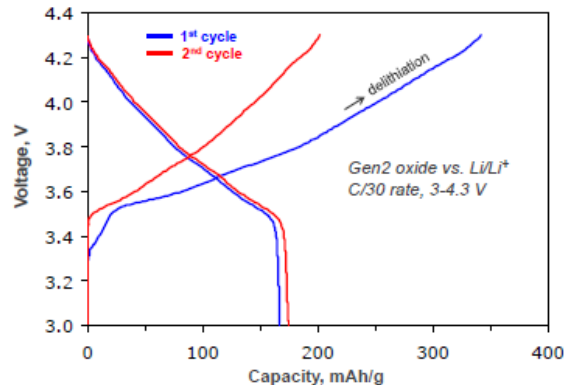


Modified glycerol carbonate



Structure modification of GC showed improved compatibility on both electrode.

**Cycling performance needs to be improved at RT.
SEI additives are mandatory for both electrodes.**

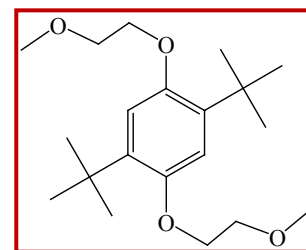
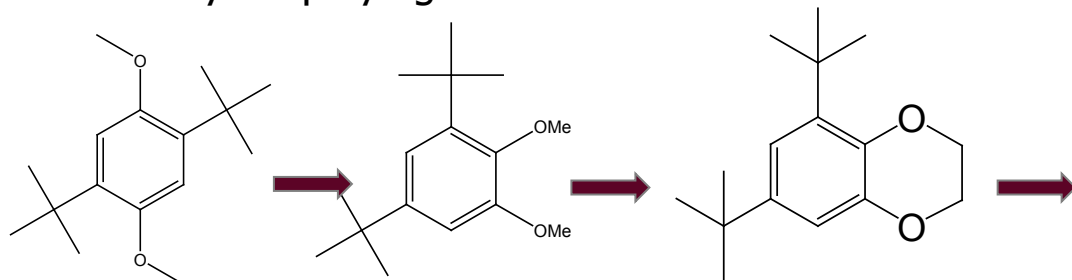


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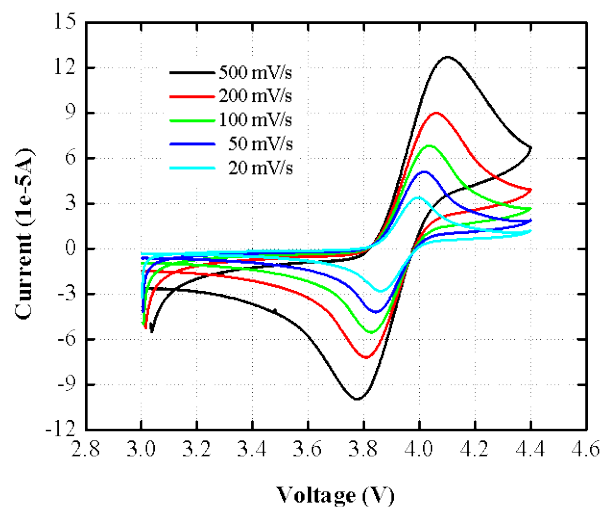
Electrolyte Additives: (1) Low Voltage Redox Shuttle

Redox shuttle additive to prevent cathode reaching dangerously high potential

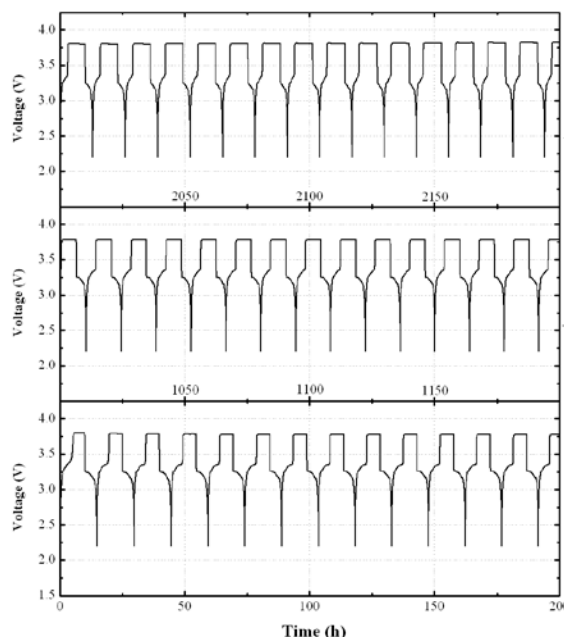
- Symmetrical structure with oligo(ethylene glycol) chain: high stability and high solubility.
- Reversible redox at 4.0V vs Li/Li⁺: suitable for LiFePO₄ chemistry
- No interfere with bulk electrolyte.
- Reduce cost by simplifying the BMS: 10% reduction estimated by BatPaC v1.0.



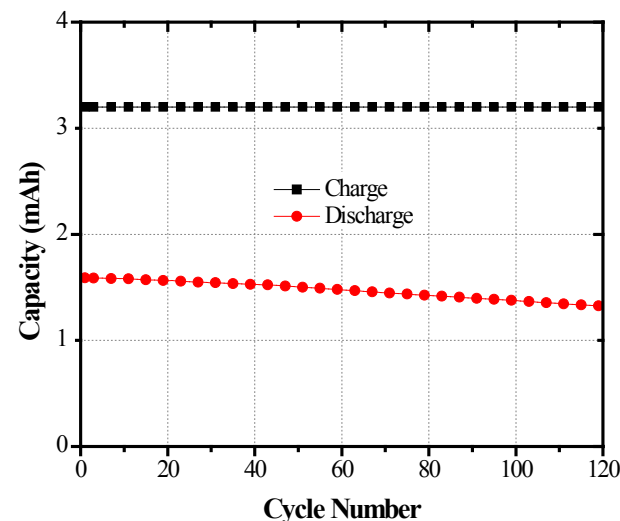
ANL-RS-2



CV profile of ANL-RS-2



Graphite/LiFePO₄, 100% overcharge, C/10, 0.1M RS-2 in Gen2 electrolyte



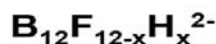
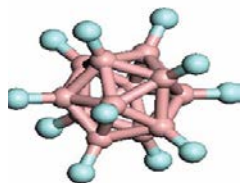
LTO/LiFePO₄, 100% overcharge, C/2, 0.4M RS-2 in Gen2 electrolyte



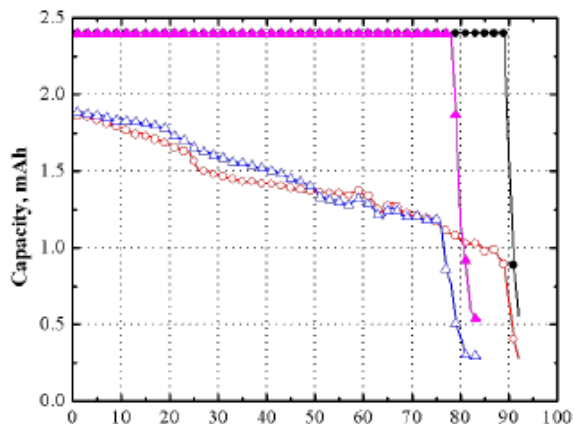
Electrolyte Additives: (2) Medium Voltage Redox Shuttle

Molecular Engineering to raise the redox potential for 4V LiMO₂ (M=Mn, Ni, Co) cathodes

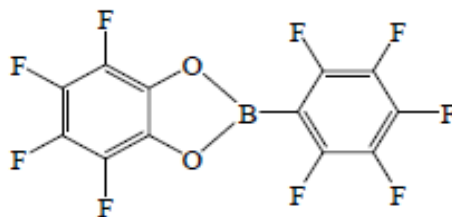
- Tunable redox potential by structure modification.
- Variety of active redox centers: benzene or borate cluster
- Electron-withdrawing substitution: lower the HOMO energy, thus increase the potential



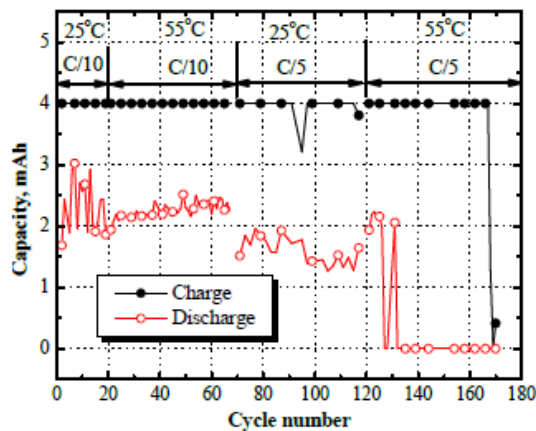
4.2-4.7V



MCMB/Li_{1.1}(Ni_{1/3}Mn_{1/3}Co_{1/3})O₂

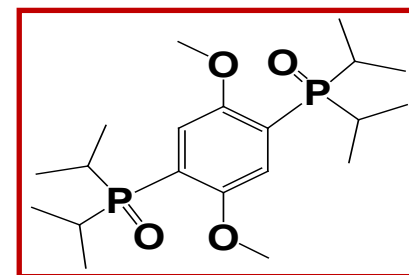


4.3V

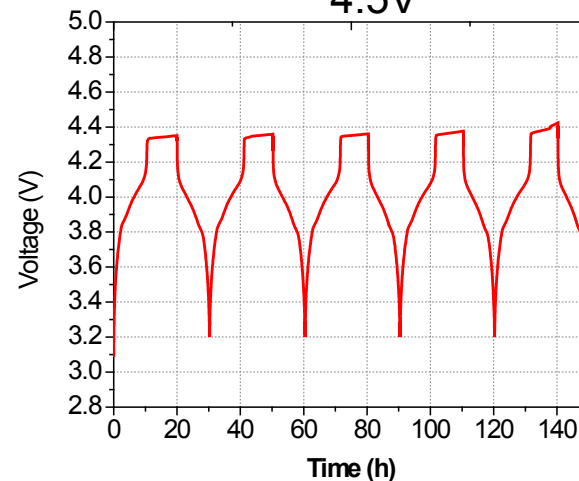


MCMB/LiNi_{0.8}Co_{0.15}Al_{0.05}O₂

ANL-RS-5



4.5V



MCMB/LiMn₂O₄

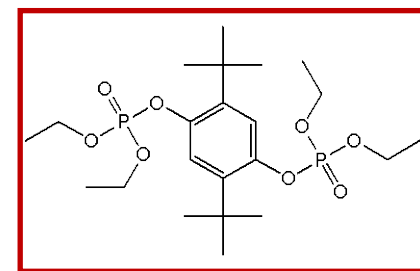
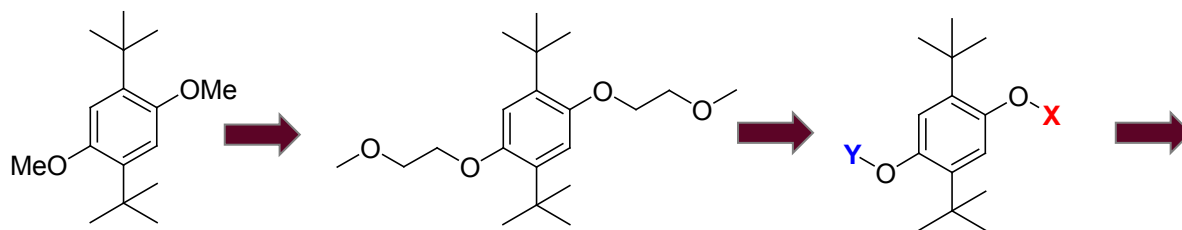


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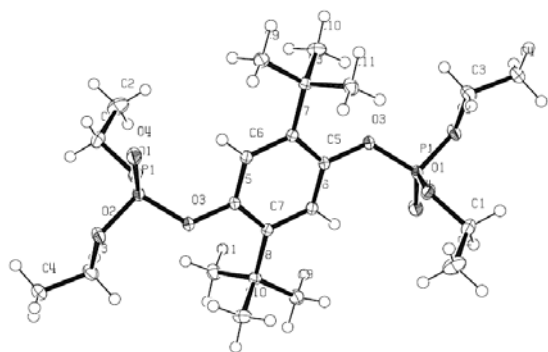
Electrolyte Additives: (3) High Voltage Redox Shuttle

Molecular Engineering to further raise the redox potential for high voltage cathodes (LNMO)

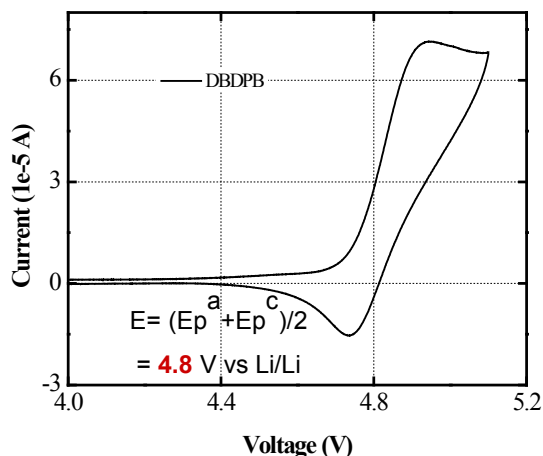
- Introduce strong electron-withdrawing group to further lower the HOMO energy
- Overcharged protection at 4.8V vs Li/Li⁺ demonstrated.
- Performance degradation due to the possible electrolyte instability at high redox potential
- Need high voltage electrolyte to full identification



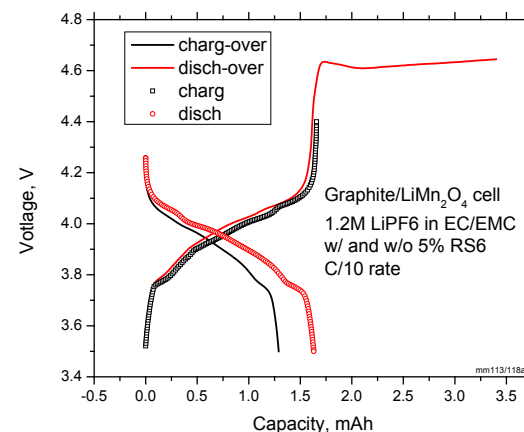
ANL-RS-6



Single crystal structure



CV profile in Gen2 electrolyte



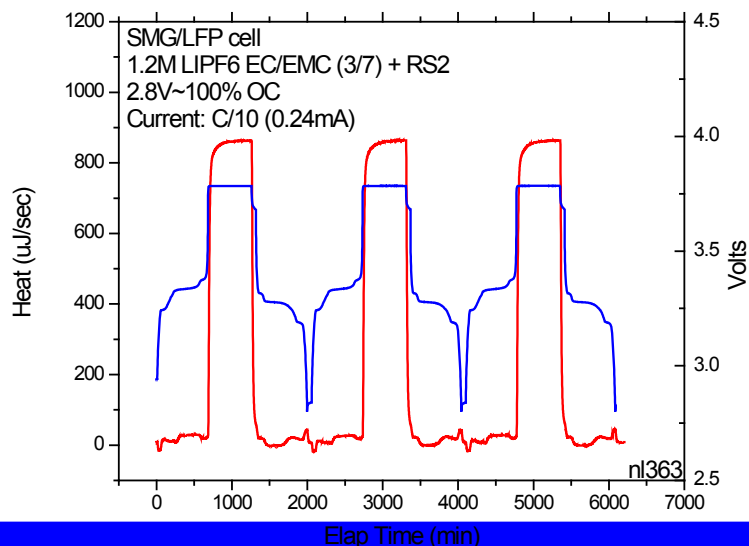
Overcharge test
 LiMn₂O₄/Gen2 electrolyte



Electrolyte Additives: (3) High Voltage Redox Shuttle

Molecular Engineering to further raise the redox potential for high voltage cathodes (LNMO)

- Introduce strong electron-withdrawing group to further lower the HOMO energy
- Overcharged protection at 4.8V vs Li/Li⁺ demonstrated.
- Performance degradation due to the possible electrolyte instability at high redox potential
- Need high voltage electrolyte to full identification



**Many advantages to apply redox shuttle in PHEV batteries
(overcharge abuse tolerance, low cost, cell self-balancing...)**

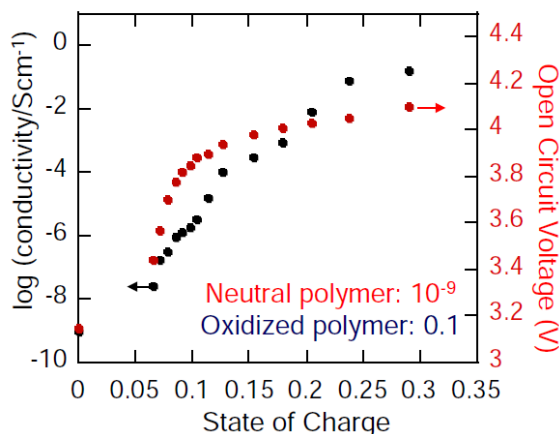
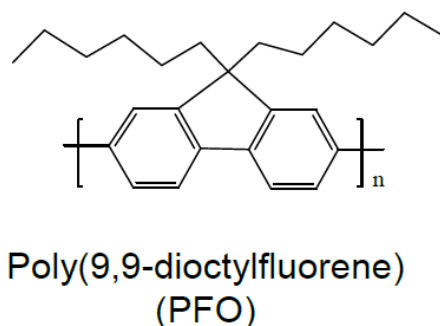
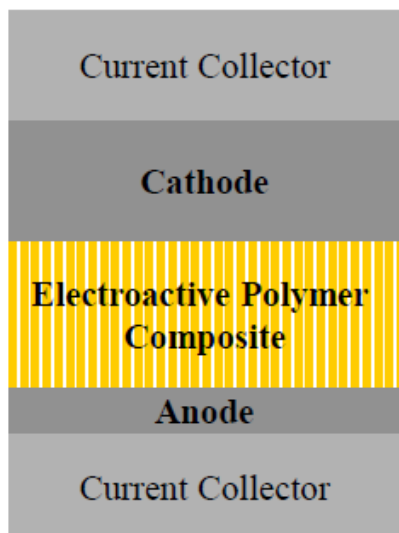
**Heat generation during overcharging process.
Need to be coupled with Thermal Management System to dissipate
heat, especially under high current overcharging abuse!**



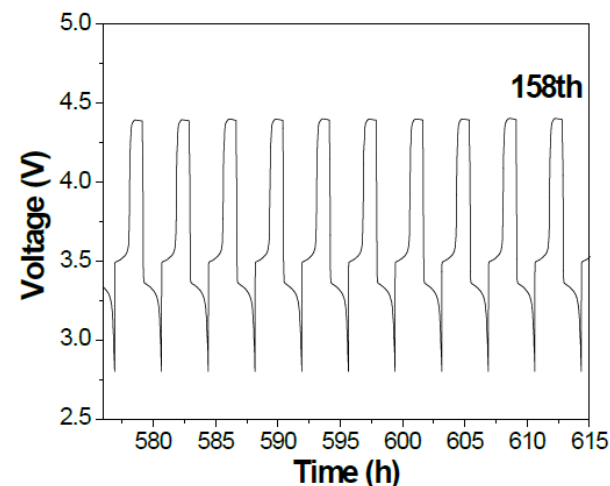
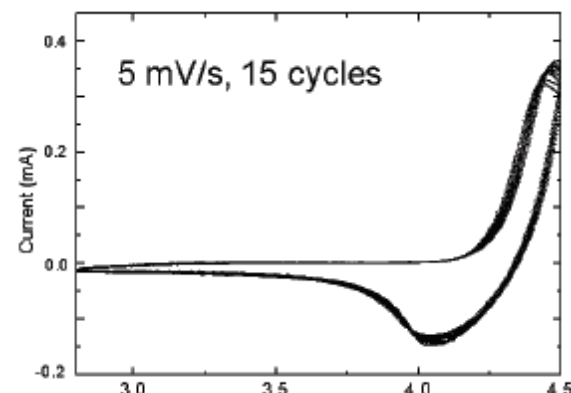
Electroactive Polymer for Overcharge Protection

Incorporating electroactive polymer for overcharge protection

- Reversible redox reaction accompanied by drastic change in electronic conductivity
- Resistive internal short providing a current bypass; the cell potential within a safe range
- Good rate capability (5C) achieved for fiber-based composite separator
- Versatile as cell holding potential is varied by the choice of polymer, polymer morphology and distribution, system configuration; Capable of low temperature protection



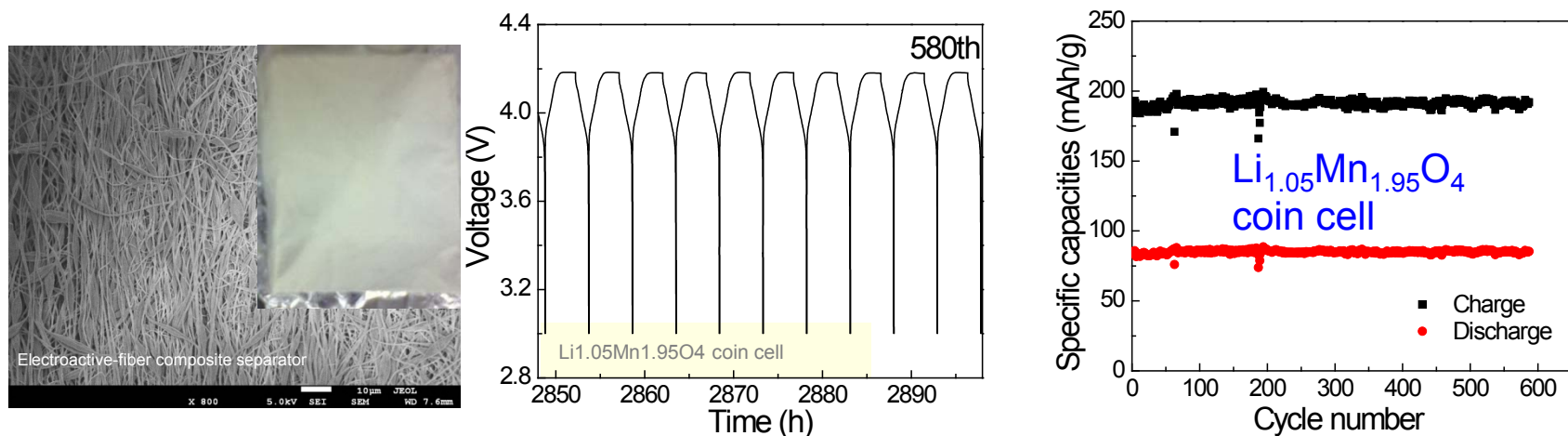
SOC dependent conductivity



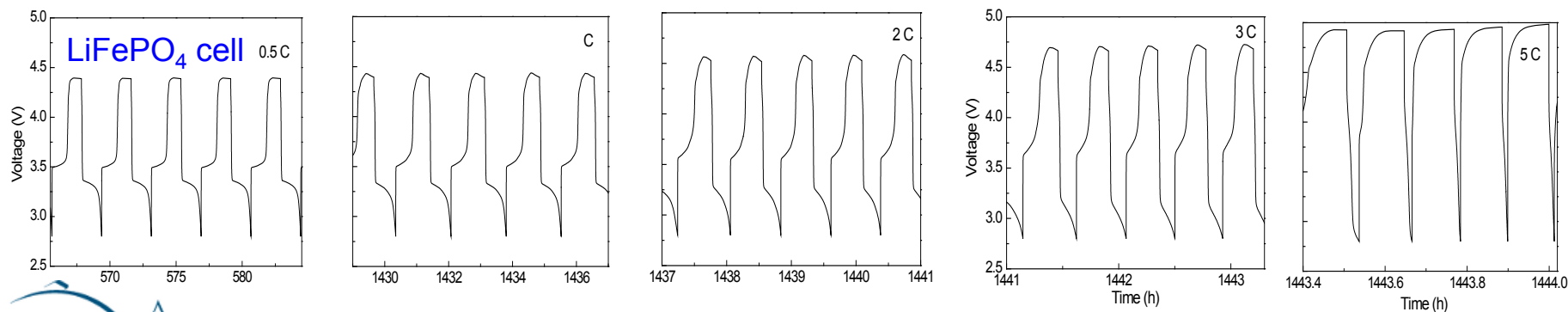
20% overcharge, Li/LiFeO₄

Electroactive Polymer for Overcharge Protection

- Improvement on protection stability was achieved on highly uniform electroactive-fiber composite separators prepared by electrospinning. Most stable reversible overcharge protection in several cell chemistries was demonstrated.

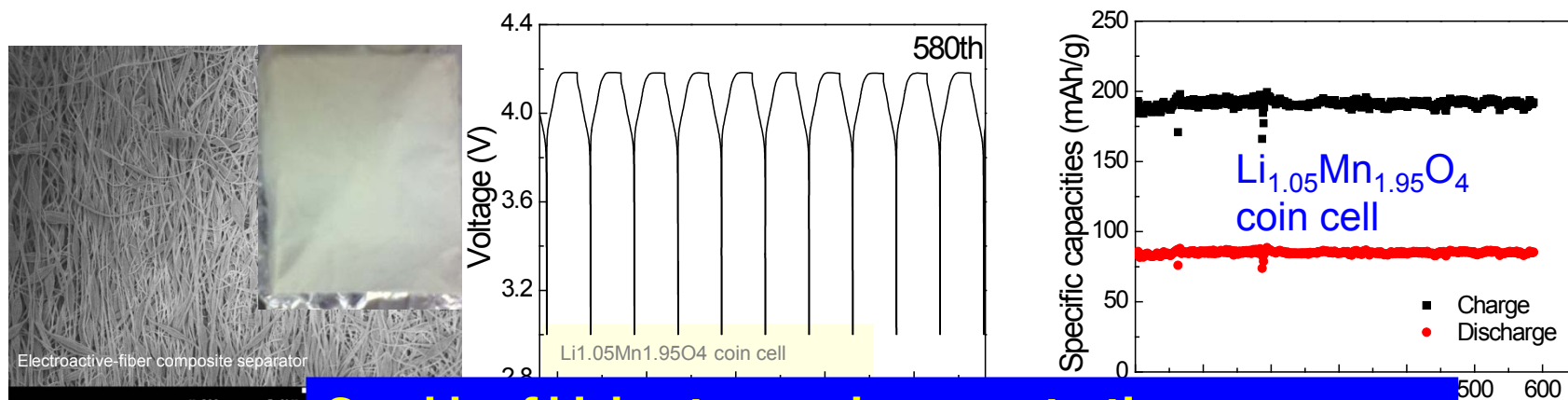


- Scale-up feasibility was demonstrated on larger-sized pouch cells.



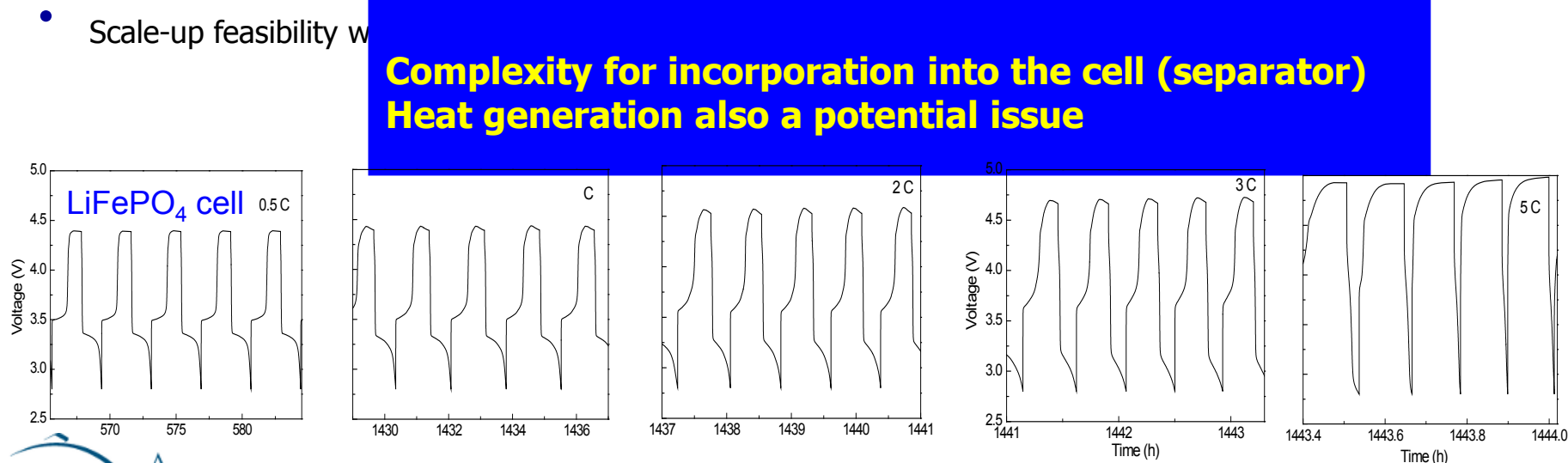
Electroactive Polymer for Overcharge Protection

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Capable of high rate overcharge protection

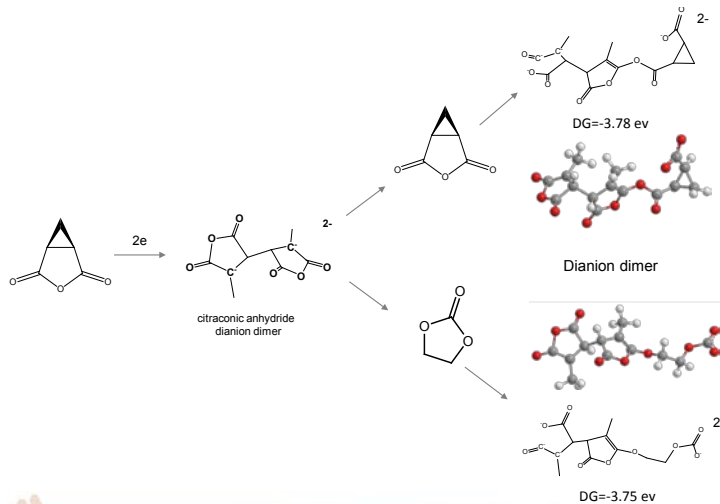
**Complexity for incorporation into the cell (separator)
Heat generation also a potential issue**



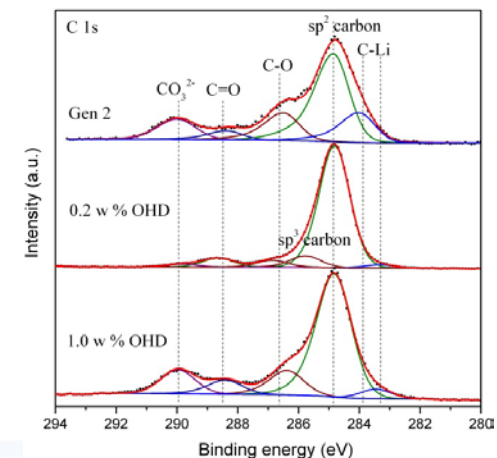
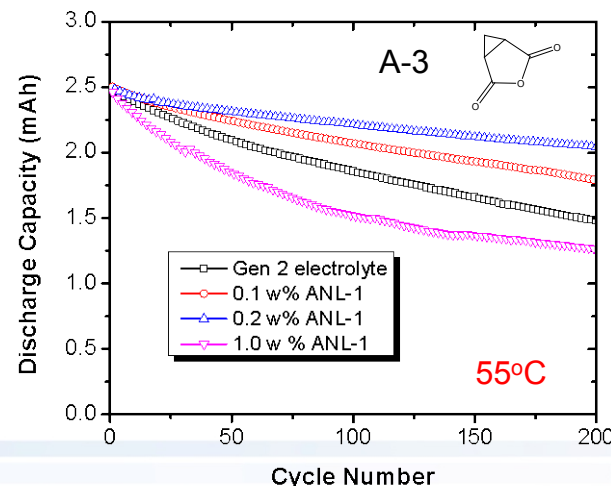
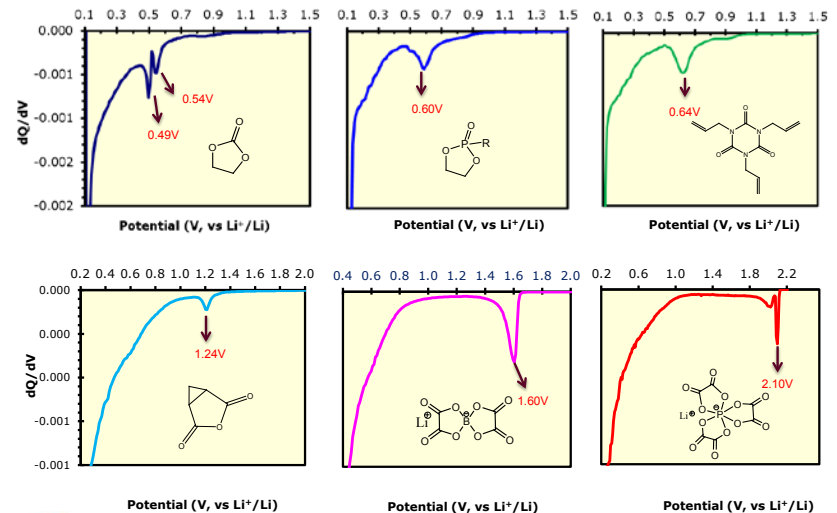
Electrolyte Additive: SEI Formation Additive

SEI formation additives to stabilize the anode/electrolyte interphase

- Quantum chemical calculation (DFT and MD): reduction potential, SEI formation pathway
- Empirical rule to narrow down the selection: unsaturated bonds and functional groups
- Reductively decomposed in a preferential pathway
- Electrochemical performance validation



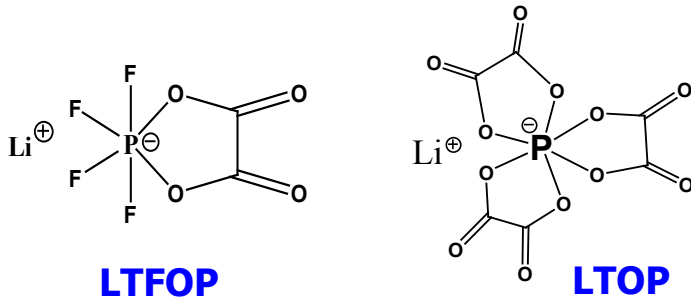
SEI Formations at Different Potentials (vs Li⁺/Li)



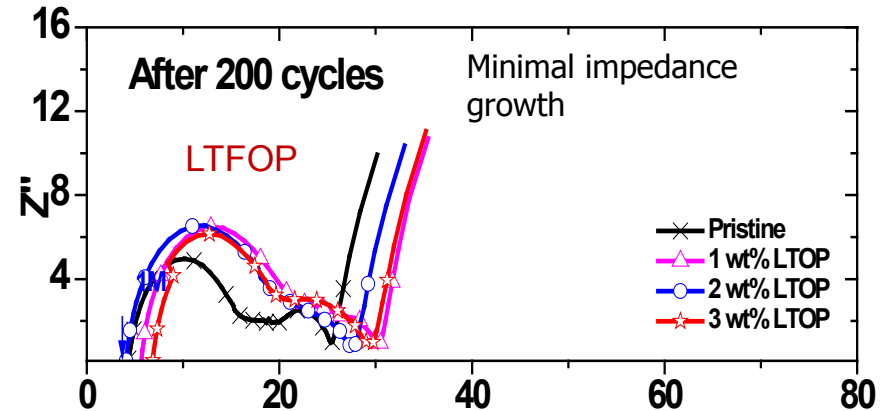
Electrolyte Additive: SEI Formation Additive

Inorganic SEI formation additive: LTFOP and LTOP

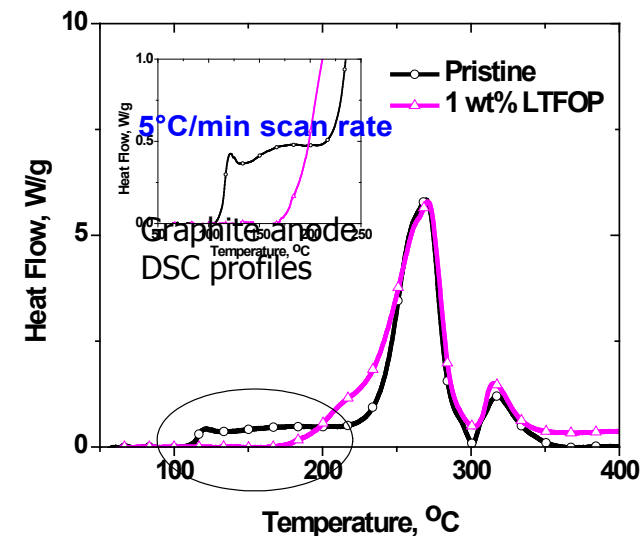
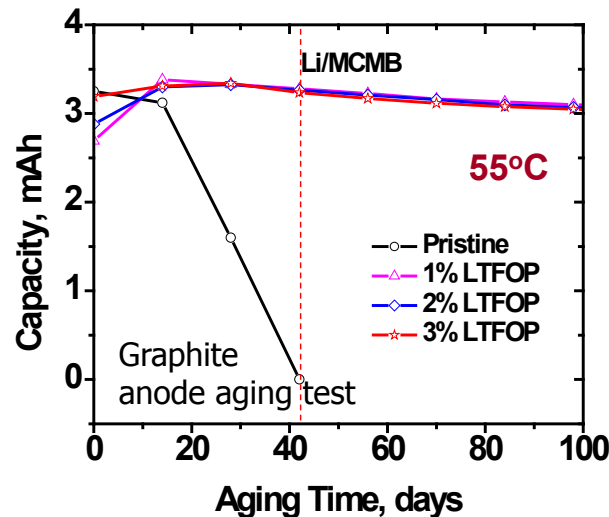
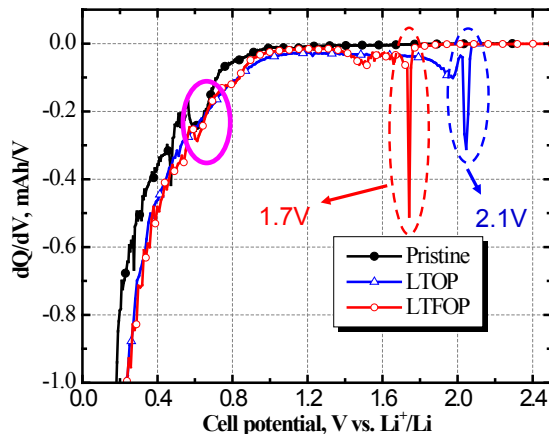
- Extended cycle life at elevated temperature
- Improved calendar life; minimal impedance growth before and after cycling
- Thermally stable SEI formation, enhanced cell safety



Lithium tetrafluoro(oxalato) phosphate (LTFOP)
Lithium tris(oxalato) phosphate (LTOP)



dQ/dV profiles of LTFOP and LTOP

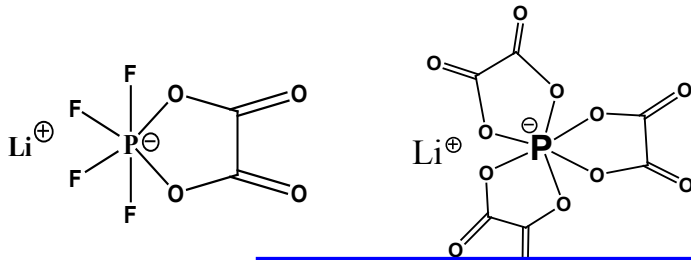


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Electrolyte Additive: SEI Formation Additive

Inorganic SEI formation additive: LTFOP and LTOP

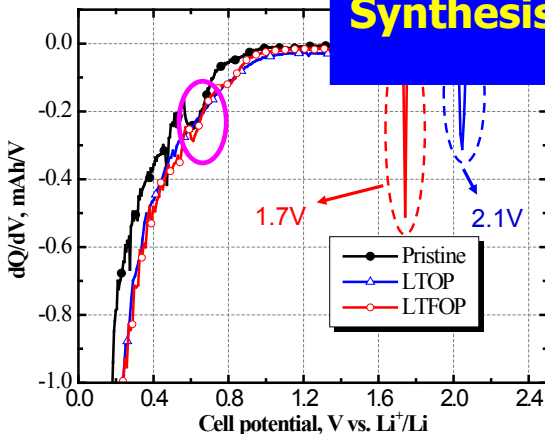
- Extended cycle life at elevated temperature
- Improved calendar life; minimal impedance increase before and after cycling
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LTFOP

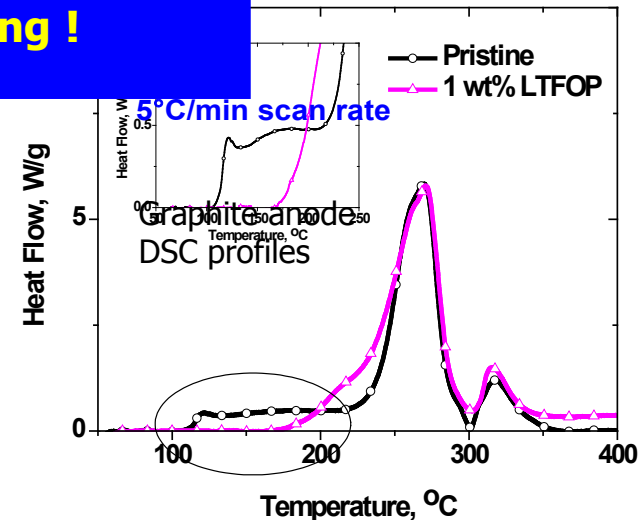
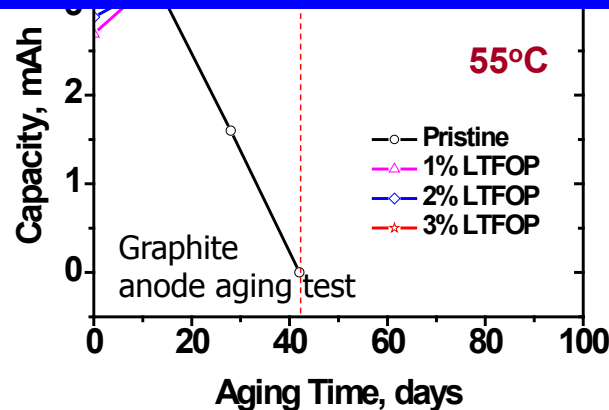
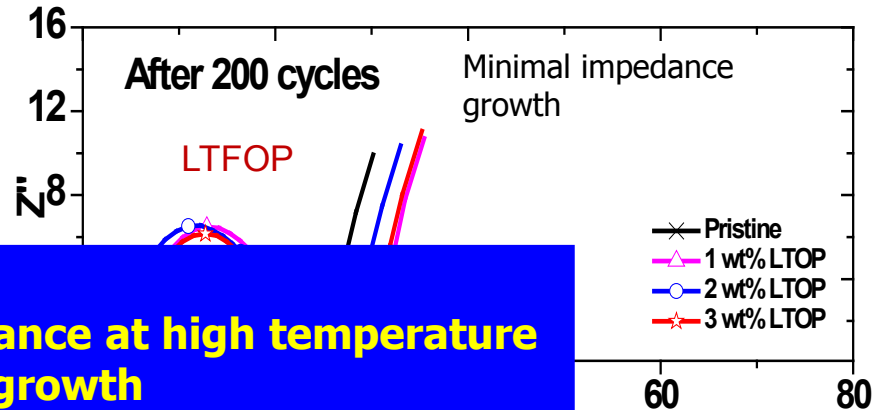
Lithium tetrafluorophosphate
Lithium tris(oxalate)phosphate

dQ/dV profiles of LTFOP



Improved cycling performance at high temperature
No significant impedance growth

Low temperature and power capability?
Synthesis/purification might be challenging !



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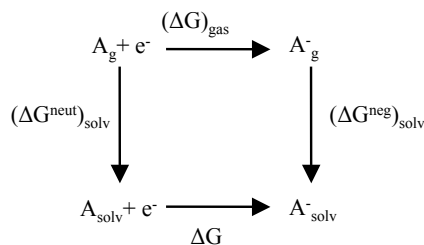
Highly Accurate Quantum Chemical Modeling: Discovery and Understanding of Electrolyte/Additive

Reduction/oxidation/potentials: Accurate calculation of electron affinity (ionization potential) + inclusion of solvation effects using a continuum model/explicit solvent molecules

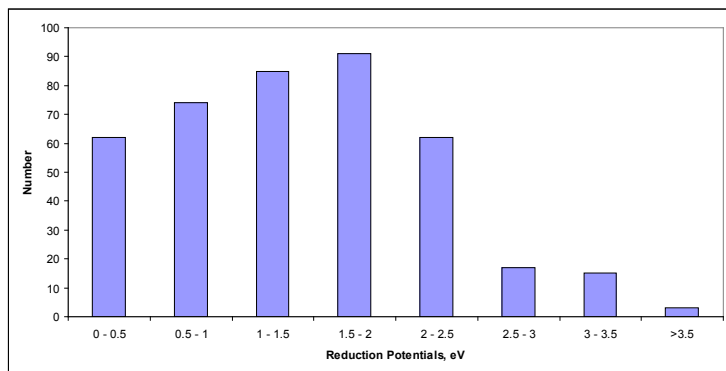
Energetics of reaction pathways for decomposition of additives for electrolytes

SEI growth from decomposition of the additives: Periodic DFT studies; polymerization of decomposition fragments

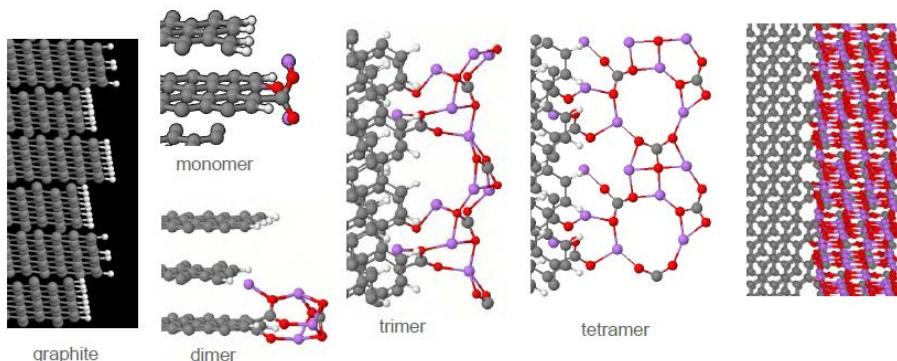
Thermodynamic Cycle Used to Calculate Reduction Potentials



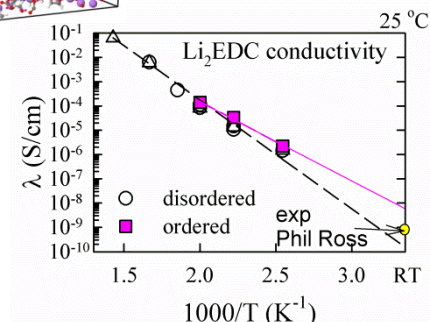
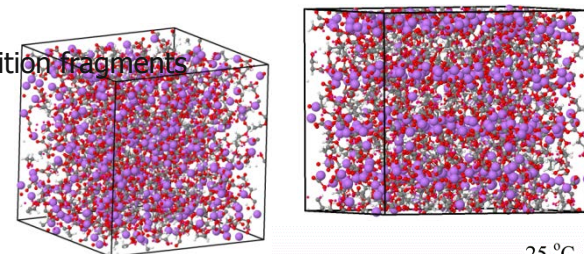
$$\Delta G = (\Delta G)_{\text{gas}} + (\Delta G^{\text{neg}})_{\text{solv}} - (\Delta G^{\text{neut}})_{\text{solv}}$$



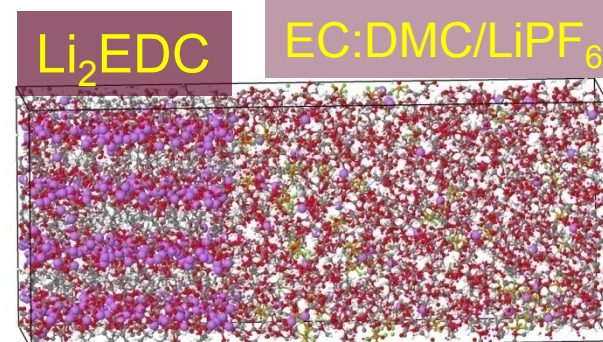
Bar chart showing the distribution of the reduction potentials relative to Li electrode of more than 400 candidate additives



DFT Investigation of Li₂CO₃ growth structures on a graphite edge surface



Conductivity of SEI components from MD simulations and experiments (LBL, Phil Ross)



Properties of the SEI | electrolyte interfacial region



Argonne Nat'l Lab
PI: Amine/Curtiss



Army Research Lab
PI: Borodin

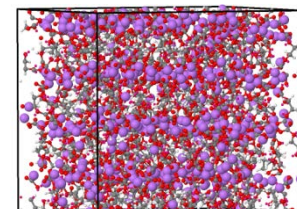
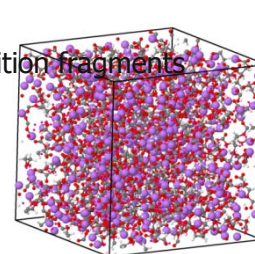
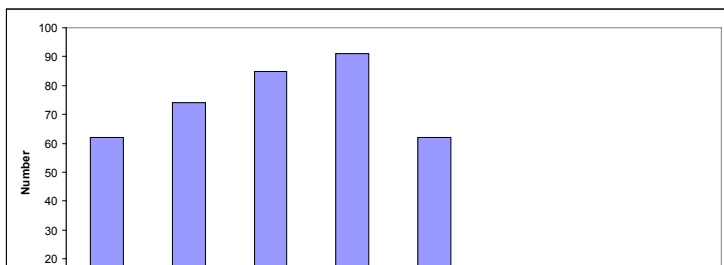
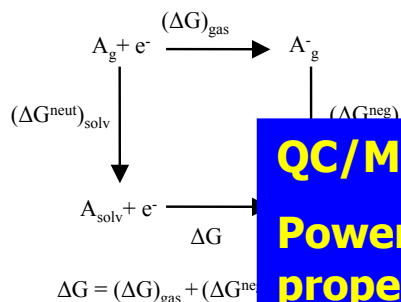
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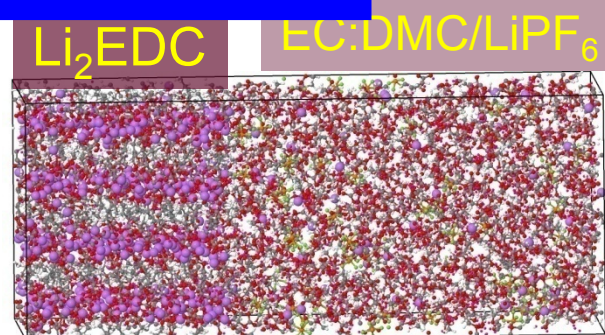
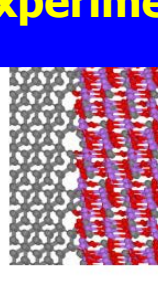
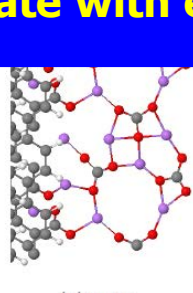
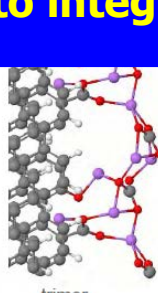
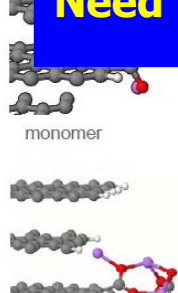
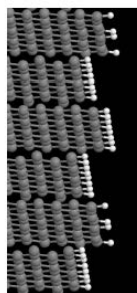
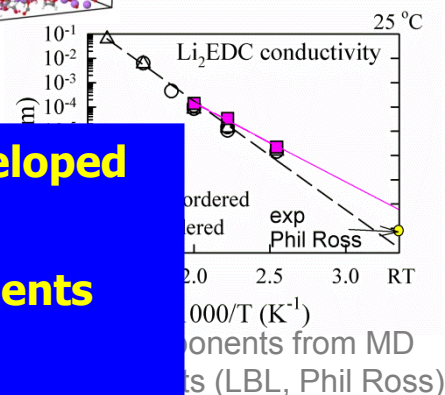
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Thermodynamic Cycle Used to Calculate Reduction Potentials



QC/MD computation tools at various levels were developed
Powerful for prediction of SEI formation, transport properties and Redox potential of electrolyte components
Need to integrate with experimental support



DFT Investigation of Li₂CO₃ growth structures on a graphite edge surface

Properties of the SEI | electrolyte interfacial region



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Concluding Remarks

As an indispensable component in LIB, electrolytes dictates the cell performance such as rate capability, high temperature performance and safety.

High voltage electrolyte has made great progress; More efforts are needed to tackle the practical application at extreme conditions.

Non-flammable electrolyte will be another research focus to enhance the cell safety and requires validation in large format cells.

Electrolyte/additive research on high capacity anode (Si, Sn, and alloy) is equally important.

Quantum chemistry simulation will help for the electrolyte design. However, real property still needs to be validated by combining electrochemical testing.